

THE TIMES 1785-1985 Tomorrow

Star quality
How Irene Worth
is putting a
leading designer
on the stage

Friend or foe?
Bernard Levin on
the threat from
the Kremlin's
Ivan Nichechapovich

On line again
Is the United
States easing its
ban on hi-tech
exports to Russia?

Record print for Times

More copies of *The Times* will be printed today than on any other day in the newspaper's 200-year history. The print order for the paper exceeds the record set last week for the commemorative issue, which contained a facsimile edition of the very first paper, known then as *The Daily Universal Register*. The unprecedented demand for today's paper marks the public interest in the 168-page colour magazine being distributed free with this issue. It contains profiles of the paper's history, its personalities, and its personalities.

Sufficient copies of the magazine have been distributed separately to newspapers throughout Britain to accompany every copy of *The Times* sold today. Tomorrow, the story of *The Times* will be told in a prestige stamp book to be issued by the Post Office. Sponsored by the paper, the book will contain ordinary definitive stamps, with pages of interesting pictures and text. It will be sold at post offices throughout the country for 25p, the face value of the stamps. The text is the work of Philip Howard, our Literary Editor, who describes the paper's journey from its early weeks, designed to advertise a new printing process, to the "Thunder" of world renown. The book is designed by David Driver, the paper's head of design.

On this day...

Today's item from the 200-year file of back numbers of *The Times* provides an exceptionally early example of a reporter's by-line, permitted on January 7, 1922, when one of our men had been kidnapped. Page 15

Portfolio

The *Times* daily Portfolio competition prize on Saturday was shared by two winners. Gareth Parker, aged 15, of Amersham, Bucks, and Mr Edward Adams of Streatham, London, each received £1,000. There was no winner in the £20,000 weekly competition, so the weekend prize for this week is doubled to £40,000. Portfolio list, page 16; rules and how to play, information service, back page.

Air fares rise

The cheapest Atlantic fare by a leading airline is expected to go up by nearly 50 per cent as cheap winter tickets end this spring. Page 3

Briton safe

Mr James Taggart, the Briton who went missing in Angola when UNITA rebels took 22 people hostage 10 days ago, has been found and flown to safety. No details of his escape were available. *Savannah's war*, page 9

Forest draw

Brian Clough's tenth anniversary celebrations as the manager of Nottingham Forest were tarnished yesterday when they drew 1-1 with Newcastle United in the FA Cup. Page 20

Leader page, 15

Letters: Strategic defence from Sir Hermann Bondi, FRS and Mr Michael Ivens; incompetent teachers from Mr R. D. Bricker; Leading articles: Pit strike; cigarette babies. Features, pages 12-14. Cat and mouse at Geneva, by John Barry; the Falasha crisis in perspective; Anne Sofie on a deal the teachers should welcome. Spectrum: the Falklands today, start of a three-part series. Monday Page: a rare interview with Selina Scott. Obituaries, page 16. Lord Black: Lovro von Matacic.

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Airlines volunteer to rescue Falasha operation

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Secret diplomatic moves are under way to find a method of rescuing an estimated 12,500 undernourished black Jews still trapped in Sudan and Ethiopia after the sudden cancellation of the Israeli-organized airlift.

Mr Zvi Eyal, chief spokesman of the Jewish Agency, told *The Times* yesterday that, after the refusal of the Belgian charter airline Trans Europ Airlines to continue its rescue flights from the Sudanese capital of Khartoum, a number of commercial airlines had already contacted the agency to offer their services. He refused to identify them.

This is now a political decision and the names of the airlines were passed directly to the (Israeli) Cabinet. Mr Eyal told me during a tour of the crowded Ethiopian absorption centre in the Israeli town of Kiryat Gat. "We estimate that 4,000 Jews are now in a handful of transit camps in Sudan and between 8,000 and 10,000 still in Ethiopia."

These estimates of the stricken Falasha population left in Africa are the first to be given officially by the agency. They are considerably higher than estimates last week by senior officials, who said most had already been transported to safety in Israel.

The various options left open to Israel to complete the rescue - suspended by the Brussels-based airline because of premature publicity - were discussed yesterday by the Cabinet. It met at the ministerial defence committee, a secretive body

whose proceedings are treated as classified information which cannot be published.

There was diplomatic speculation that contingency plans might include some military-style operation to rescue at least the 4,000 starving and diseased Falashas in Sudan, many of whom have spent weeks trekking to their makeshift transit camps over arduous terrain. Scores are known to have died en route.

It is understood the refugees on the so-called "long march" had heard by word of mouth in their primitive villages that they would find new homes and food in Israel. There have been reports that many were told to ask for a "Mr Gold", believed to have been a code name used during the operation.

Diplomatic sources said further dramatic Israeli moves might be considered if the Sudanese Government refused any further cooperation in Operation Moses, including forbidding other international airlines from taking over the task of flying out the Falashas.

They said any such move by the Israelis would be guaranteed wide sympathy in the West, where public imagination has been stirred by the airlift. Since November the operation has brought 7,354 Ethiopian Jews to a new life in Israel.

At least 10 are believed to have died on the planes during flights described as harrowing by some of those involved. The last of the planes landed at Tel Aviv on Saturday with 200 new immigrants on board.

Initially, the plan had been to continue the rescue flights until the end of next month, but details of the secret operation were leaked by two Jewish Agency leaders.

Cancellation of the airlift came as a bitter blow to the Israeli Government and to the Ethiopian Jews in Israel, most of whom have relatives left behind. The Falashas yesterday expressed anger against the world's press for revealing their story and the Israeli authorities for providing details at a press conference organized by the Prime Minister's office while the operation was still underway.

The recrimination over the leak has overshadowed some of the initial euphoria surrounding the airlift, both among the Falashas and ordinary Israelis. The extreme right wing, Iechiya Party and left-wing Citizens Rights Movement yesterday both tabled motions of no confidence in the Government for confirming that the secret airlift was underway.

The Falasha claim to be descendants of one of the 10 lost tribes of Israel. ● PARIS: Libya has called for a special meeting of the Arab League to discuss the airlift. Radio Tripoli said yesterday (AFP reports).

Dr Ali Triki, the Libyan Foreign Minister, asked the league's General Secretary, Mr Chadli Klibi, to organize the meeting. Press blamed, page 8. Israel's triumph, page 14

Israel 'selling arms to Ethiopia'

Israel has been selling military spare parts and ammunition to Ethiopia since early 1983, according to Western officials based in Addis Ababa. (Carol Berger writes).

For the past year rumours have circulated of the presence of Israeli intelligence officers in the Ethiopian capital. But some Western officials have discounted these rumours and referred instead to Israeli commercial activity, in particular the sale of military hardware.

The total value of arms from Israel in 1983 alone is estimated at \$20 million (£17 million). In October that year one shipment to the Ethiopian port of Assab was reported to contain about \$6 million in military equipment.

The stock of small arms, ammunition and spare parts is said to be largely from seizures made during the Israeli invasion of southern Lebanon. At least some of the military consignments are known to have arrived in Ethiopia through the office of a company known as Amiran, based in Addis Ababa. Equipment is also thought to have been

shipped via a company registered and located in Amsterdam.

Israel is believed to have sold equipment more cheaply than Ethiopia's main supplier, the Soviet Union. According to one prominent military official, the Israeli sales are considered "merely a financial interest".

On Saturday, Sudan accused Ethiopia of using its Falasha population as a "bargaining card" for obtaining arms and money from Israel. Sudan denied taking part in the transport of Ethiopian Jews to Israel from Sudan.

Bill to stamp out commercialism

Fowler to act over surrogate births

By Michael Horsnell and Julian Haviland

Ministers are to bring forward the least possible delay legislation to prevent the commercial exploitation of surrogate motherhood.

Stimulated by public disquiet at the circumstances of the birth of a girl last week to a London mother, who is to be paid £6,500 by an unnamed married couple, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, has resolved that new legal safeguards are needed.

It was suggested at first that legislation could best be promoted by a back-bench MP, whom the Government would have helped by providing parliamentary time and drafting skills.

But with the first half-dozen MPs who have drawn plans in the ballot for private members' time in the Commons already committed to other measures, Mr Fowler has decided that he must take the initiative with a government Bill.

His intention is to legislate in the present session, so that the new statute becomes law by November. Although the session is crowded, Mr Fowler's request for legislative time will not be refused.

However, no firm view has yet been formed within the Department of Health and Social Security. Consideration will be given to enacting new sanctions either against commercial agencies or against professional medical staff who

work with them. The commercial element is a main target.

Scotland Yard confirmed yesterday that it will investigate the circumstances surrounding the birth of the 7lb 13oz baby to Britain's first commercial surrogate mother, Mrs Kim Cotton, aged 28.

Detectives have no plans to interview the prospective parents. The baby, who is healthy and progressing well, was born on Friday at Victoria Maternity Hospital, Barnet, north London, where Mrs Cotton was referred by her family doctor as a National Health Services patient.

Mrs Cotton, who has two other children, has refused to comment since being discharged from the hospital on Saturday after briefly cuddling her daughter.

Within hours of her birth, local authority officials successfully applied to magistrates for the baby to remain in the hospital under a "place of safety" order for a week. The bill will mean while inquire whether the childless couple, who are paying the £6,500 fee to Mrs Cotton and at least as much to Surrey-based American subsidiary of The National Centre for Surrogate Parenting, which arranged the birth, are fit to adopt the child.

A juvenile court will consider the case on Friday. Leading article, page 15

Siberian winds bring snow and chaos

By David Hewson

icy winds from Siberia carried freezing weather to Europe over the weekend, depositing eight inches of snow on Nice and bringing much of south-east England to a standstill.

The London Weather Centre yesterday forecast more overnight snow in the South-east yesterday. Delays were predicted on the roads and railways this morning.

The sudden cold snap gave Rome its first snow for 14 years, and temperatures of up to -22C were reported in Switzerland.

The London Weather Centre predicted last night that tem-

peratures in East Anglia and Kent could fall to -8C.

Most of the South-east was covered by up to two inches of snow yesterday, but in the Midlands it was up to a foot deep. In Sussex, cattle and sheep were lost in snowdrifts.

The weather brought treacherous conditions to the roads, and a large number of minor accidents were reported. Speed limits and lane closures were operating on many motorways, and the police advised drivers to venture out only if essential.

The same warning is expected today.

Train services throughout British Rail's eastern and southern regions were disrupted

yesterday. Trains from Colchester, already delayed by engineering work, arrived in Liverpool Street up to two hours late. Coaches ferried passengers along part of the journey.

Southern region said last night that it would run "ghost trains" through the night to keep tracks open, but delays are expected in both areas this morning.

Gatwick airport, closed yesterday morning, reopened in the afternoon. Seven incoming flights were diverted from Heathrow to Manchester, but snow ploughs and sweepers kept the airport open.

Cross channel ferries unaffected by the French seamen's dispute ran normally, though with fewer passengers. The weather in Sussex was described by the police as the worst for 10 years, with some areas having four inches of snow. Five inches fell at Selsey, West Sussex.

The AA and RAC advised drivers to ensure that they are well equipped and prepared today. The AA advised drivers to carry a spade, dig themselves out of drift and to tell someone the route and estimated time of arrival. Forty ploughs and gritters are spreading Co. VIC page, col 2



Seeking a thaw: Mr Shultz, left, and Mr Gromyko arrive in Geneva yesterday

Guarded optimism as Shultz and Gromyko arrive for arms talks

From Richard Owen, Geneva

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, both expressed only guarded optimism about the prospects for a political thaw after 15 months of East-West chill when they arrived in Geneva yesterday. They began crucial Soviet-American talks on arms control today.

Mr Shultz said President Reagan had sent him on a "mission for peace", but he had "no illusions that progress will be easy to achieve". The United States would work hard to achieve agreements "that will contribute to the security not only of the United States and the Soviet Union but the rest of the world as well".

Mr Gromyko, who arrived later, said Moscow hoped the

United States would take a "responsible and constructive approach" to the meeting, which is to set an agenda for renewed arms talks. The Russians walked out of the last Geneva arms talks in November 1983 when Nato deployed cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in Western Europe.

The Soviet Foreign Minister, who normally uses an interpreter, spoke in English in a clear, strong voice. He said he hoped to work out basic guidelines with Mr Shultz for "mutually acceptable accords which would prevent an arms race in outer space" as well as insuring "advancement along the path of radical reductions in nuclear arms, leading in the long run to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons."

Continued on back page, col 1

Pressure for pit peace mounts

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Both sides in the 10-month old miners' strike yesterday indicated a readiness to resume negotiations to end the conflict that is threatening irreparable damage to many more coal faces.

Mr Michael Eaton, chief spokesman for the National Coal Board, said in a television interview: "We have always been absolutely and totally willing, and still are, to negotiate, even tomorrow, if we are given the opportunity by the National Union of Mineworkers."

But the union must accept that the cost of coal production was linked to whether or not a pit should close, he said.

Mr Arthur Scargill, the miners' president, said later that the strike, which today goes into its forty-fourth week, could go on "a lot longer" but added: "I would hope the coal board are prepared to negotiate, I certainly am."

However, the board would have to accept that its pit closure programme of March 6, 1984, was no longer relevant and must also agree to a definition of what is an "exhausted" colliery.

On the face of it, the key parties in the confrontation over pit closures were simply restating their well-rehearsed bargaining positions. But the pressures on both sides to reach an agreement are intensifying and third parties are understood to be working behind the scenes to get the miners' union and the board back to the negotiating table. The union's national executive meets in Sheffield on Thursday to assess the situation after today's crucial restart of production in many collieries after the holiday.

The union concedes that more men will go back, though not enough to yield the 30 per cent of normal working that the board has set itself to achieve, and which Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the board, regards as the de facto end of the strike.

Mr Peter Heathfield, the union's general secretary, told *The Times* last night: "I am absolutely confident that in two weeks time, there will be 60 per cent or more of our members on strike."

Those who are returning have found that the pits they walked out of last March present a different picture. Work has resumed at about one third of the industry's 600 coal faces, and "some form of problem" has developed at about 70 of these; about 20 faces may not be recoverable, in addition to the 38 faces lost.

Mr MacGregor issued a warning on TV-am yesterday: "We hope that people will realize that the continuation of this dispute merely exposes the industry to further decline and deterioration."

Group returns plea, page 2. Leading article, page 15

Waite flies to face new difficulty

By Richard Dowden

Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's envoy, is due to return to Libya today hoping to continue his mission to secure the release of the four Britons detained there despite the fact that one of them received a three-year and three-month jail sentence yesterday.

Mr Alan Russell, an English teacher, was given the sentence with a £1,500 fine after being found guilty on four out of five charges of breaching security. He was accused of supplying information to the BBC World Service in May last during a news blackout in Libya.

If the People's Congresses agree to Colonel Gaddafi's request for the release of the four, Mr Russell could be released with the other Britons in a matter of days. According to reports from Tripoli a majority of speeches in the Congresses which began on Saturday were in favour of releasing the four men, but last night no clear decision appeared to have been taken.

Mr Waite spent yesterday morning visiting jailed Libyans in the north of England, including four charged with bomb attacks in Manchester.

He delivered messages from their families in Libya and said he would take back messages from the prisoners to their families when he returned to Tripoli.

He will also be able to report in Tripoli that the "help line" set up by local councils of churches in cities throughout Britain for Libyan students to contact if they need assistance, is well advanced.

Thatcher leaves pound alone

By Kenneth Fleet

The Prime Minister appears to have decided to provide no support to the plummeting pound, despite the likelihood that sterling will come under further pressure this week as oil prices fall.

With support from the Chancellor, Mrs Thatcher has set her face against either serious intervention by the Bank of England to support sterling in the foreign exchange market, or a sharp rise in bank interest rates to buy off the immediate fears of those who pushed the dollar rate below 1.14 at one stage last week.

To speculate whether the pound will sink to parity with the US dollar (£1=\$1) is no longer to think the unthinkable: indeed the vigour with which the Treasury has turned its back on the fate of sterling is a positive invitation to do so. At the same time, the sudden vehemence of the Thatcher-Lawson line may mean that tomorrow's important money supply figures are, at worst, impossible to interpret and, at best, unalarming.

The figures, which cover three weeks to December 12, will have been distorted by the November sale of shares in British Telecom.

An increase in money supply of more than 0.5 per cent, if coupled with a rise in bank lending of over £1.8 billion, would practically guarantee higher bank base rates, at present 9½-9¾ per cent.

At a time of falling oil prices, the depreciating pound is keeping the Government's revenues from North Sea oil buoyant. Were the exchange rate of oil receipts to drop as the dollar price of oil drops, the cost of the miners' strike, would have a greater impact on Government finances. Comment, Page 17

SALE TODAY

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SALE TODAY

9.30am-6pm (7pm Traders)

REGENT STREET

LONDON W1

NCB encourages miners to form groups for return to work

By Tim Jones

All 19,600 miners in South Wales, Britain's most militant coalfield, will receive letters today from the National Coal Board telling them how they can return to work in groups. Miners wanting to return are being told that their pre-paid replies will be treated in the strictest confidence and that no approaches will be made to them until there are enough of them at individual pits to form organized groups.

Mr Cliff Davies, the board's South Wales area deputy director (mining), claimed it had become increasingly apparent since Christmas that miners were impatient with their leaders' lack of initiative in getting the strike settled.

"Many have been in contact with us to say if they could be organized into groups they would be prepared to return to work."

Since it began, the strike has been almost solid in the coalfield, with never more than 140 miners breaking ranks. Today the miners' president, Mr Arthur Scargill, is meeting men from the Cynheidre Colliery, in west Wales, where last Friday 87 men were working.

Mr Davies said that men reporting for duty this month would be able to earn tax-free wages until the end of the tax year in April and would qualify for holiday pay after four weeks.

He said that the Government's statement that there would be no power cuts in 1985, and the fact that striking miners in South Wales had lost an average of £6,075 in wages were

powerful inducements to miners to go back.

"After voting against the strike in March by a substantial majority, miners feel increasingly aggrieved at being prevented from going back to work."

Hundreds of striking miners are expected to return to work today in north Derbyshire.

North Derbyshire is regarded as a barometer for the rest of the country, and what happens there will be crucial to the success of the coal board's campaign to tempt more men to give up the 10-month old dispute.

With 5,450 of the coalfield's 10,800 men already clocking on, seven of nine pits are producing coal.

The board has spent thousands of pounds on advertisements in Sunday newspapers appealing for miners to end the strike.

Last week the board claimed there were 710 "new faces". Meanwhile, Mr Scargill has urged working miners to rejoin the strike.

The miners had been "bludgeoned" by the whole force of the state, which was being used to break the unions, he told 500 miners at Worksop, Nottinghamshire, on Saturday.

"Anyone who has gone back should come back out on strike," he said. "If they do, as far as I'm concerned this union will forgive, but if they continue to work and continue to ignore the union they will be stained in the eyes of the union movement."

Leading article, page 15

Oil burning pushes strike cost to £2,400m

The cost of the miners' strike has risen sharply in recent weeks as a result of winter power demands, a report says today.

According to the stockbrokers, Simons and Coates, the cost of the strike has increased to about £80 million to £85 million a week, as power stations have had to burn larger amounts of more expensive oil. Before the end of August, the cost of the strike was about £60 million a week.

The brokers estimate that the total strike cost for 1984 has risen to £2,400 million. Of this £1,800 million is a direct cash cost, and the rest results from lower coal stocks. During the next three months Simon and Coates expect cash costs to rise by a further £700 million.

Their analysis shows that the Central Electricity Generating Board is now burning almost twice as much oil as in a normal December.

On the strike's wider impact, the analysis says there is no evidence that production in other parts of the economy is being affected. But the extra oil burnt and lost coal exports are adding £350 million a month to the overseas trade deficit.

The dispute has provoked the Friends of the Lake District to support representations being made by an Ambleside doctor for a weight restriction on all vehicles using the narrow A591/2 road from Keswick to Newby Bridge through the heart of the Lake District national park.

The amenity society decided at the weekend to write to the highways authority, the police, and the Lake District special planning board, expressing concern at the increase in the number of big coal lorries now using the route to take coal from the Maryport open-cast colliery to the Roosecote power station at Barrow. The CEBG is trying to build up stocks there because of the strike.

"The A591 is one of the most beautiful roads in the country," the society's secretary, Mr Michael Houston said yesterday.

Mr Arthur Scargill has issued a libel writ against Sir Woodrow Wyatt, the former Labour MP, complaining of words in a *News of the World* article by Sir Woodrow. Sir Woodrow and News Group Newspapers have indicated the application will be contested.

Shortage of coal in 90 primary and nursery schools in Ayrshire has meant that Strathclyde Regional Council's education department has had to end education for 20,000 children today. Attempts will be made to continue classes part time in community centres and church halls.



Mr Jackson preaching at St Peter's Church, Kensington Park Road, yesterday.

Jackson visits Dikko

By Richard Dowden

The Rev Jesse Jackson, one of the contenders for the United States Democratic presidential candidacy last year, yesterday paid a secret visit to Dr Alhaji Umaru Dikko, the former Nigerian minister, who was released from a crate at Stansted airport in Essex after allegedly being kidnapped in London last July.

Alhaji Dikko, the chief witness in the trial next month of his alleged kidnappers, is guarded by police in his west London home and would not comment on the visit, but it is understood that he is consider-

ing trying to gain a permit to live in the US if his appeal for political asylum in Britain fails. He may have asked Mr Jackson for help in obtaining a visa.

Mr Jackson, who was not available for comment last night, is on a four-day visit to Britain at the invitation of the Anti-Apartheid Movement.

Speaking at a press conference yesterday Mr Jackson said that British investments in South Africa were helping to prop up apartheid.

"The United States and Britain, which consider themselves to be the crown jewels of

democracy, in fact have the heaviest investment in South Africa."

Mr Jackson, who is due to meet the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, today, said that he would try to persuade religious leaders to make a co-ordinated effort to get western countries to take a different attitude to apartheid.

During his visit he also visited Notting Hill and Brixton. He said: "Jesus was born in a manger not in a mansion. It is more likely that Jesus would have been born in Brixton than in the suburbs."

Liberals fight Trident

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Liberal Party launches a campaign today against the Government's plan to buy the Trident strategic nuclear-missile system with the publication of a pamphlet saying that Trident imperils Nato's policy of strengthening the alliance's non-nuclear capability.

In a supporting message, Mr David Steel, the party leader, says: "We cannot allow Britain's future security and defences to be mortgaged to pay for this vastly expensive and funda-

mentally unnecessary nuclear rocket system."

Mr Russell Ighstone, the party's "defence" spokesman, says: "To persist with the purchase of this weapon system will distort our defence budget disastrously for decades and put off the day when we adopt rational policies for Britain's security."

The pamphlet says that the cost of Trident having been put at £5.1 billion in 1980, is now between £10 billion and £13 billion.

Near the end of the decade Trident will take about 25 per cent of the defence equipment budget.

Less than 5 per cent of the project cost has been spent, but by the end of this Government the annual commitments will have risen sharply and it will be argued with some plausibility that we are too late to cancel.

Chicken in the Nest: The real cost of Trident. (From Liberal Party Headquarters, Whitehall Place, London SW1 5NP.)

Pilot still held in Libya case

A freelance pilot was being held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act in London yesterday by Scotland Yard detectives investigating the alleged flight of a Libyan from Britain last summer while on bail for drug charges.

Mr William Childs, from Hertfordshire, was arrested on Thursday with two other men who were released at the weekend. On Saturday, the police were given a three-day extension.

The anti-terrorist squad is investigating the flight of Mr Muhammad Shehri, reported to be a brother in law of Colonel Gaddafi.

Yesterday, the Yard was unable to comment on a report that detectives were preparing a report for the Director of Public Prosecutions on allegations that a Briton being held in Cairo was involved in plans by the Gaddafi regime to kidnap dissident Libyans.

Police hold doctor under terror Act

A retired Birmingham psychiatrist was being held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act yesterday in Liverpool.

The arrest of Dr Moira O'Shea, an executive member of the Irish in Britain representation group brings the number of people held by Merseyside police under the act to three in the past week.

They are the latest in a number of arrests which began with the arrest of six men before Christmas. Two were fined £150 last week for giving false information to the police.

Three men have been remanded in custody charged with explosives offences.

Dr O'Shea, who comes from the Sparkhill area of Birmingham, was arrested by the West Midlands police on Saturday and taken to Liverpool. Her home was reported to have been searched by police while she was on holiday in Dublin.

Long wait for owners of historic homes

Ministers are expected to delay a decision even longer on the fate of some of the nation's most impressive ancestral homes, as a result of a recent restriction on the Government's acceptance of art treasures and monuments, in lieu of tax.

Owners of historic homes are entitled to offer all or part of their estates, or heirlooms to the nation, as an alternative to paying tax debts, usually estate duties. But the new clampdown means that the Government will have to be increasingly highly selective about which offers to accept.

Experts within the Department of the Environment are advising the Treasury and the Inland Revenue whether two historic homes, Kedleston Hall, the home of Lord Scarsdale, and Weston Park, the home of Lord Bradford, merit being bought by the Government as part of the national heritage.

The three departments have already been conferring for more than a year on the future of Kedleston Hall, while the other mansion has only just been offered, it was confirmed at the weekend.

It may be many months before a decision is reached on either home. Although the new restriction means the Government may accept only £2 million worth of historic homes instead of tax, historic homes have previously been treated as exceptions. For example, the Government allowed an extra £2 million for the acceptance of Calke Abbey.

Lord Scarsdale, whose mid-eighteenth century Adam mansion, in Derbyshire, is set in sculpted gardens and park, with ornamental lakes and waterfalls, is confident that the Government will make an exception of his estate.

He said yesterday: "It is generally accepted that Kedleston is one of the finest historic houses in England, probably in Europe, and it merits special and careful consideration." He has offered his entire estate to the nation, in lieu of paying £2.5 million capital transfer tax, incurred after the death of his father.

Lord Scarsdale is also concerned that the Government's clampdown on expenditure on the national heritage might also mean that should it accept Kedleston, it may wish to economise on its running costs. He fears that could result in the "National Trust" being rejected as "excessive" of the home, in favour of the newly formed English Heritage Commission, which may initially be able to run it for less.

His reaction to such a prospect was that he would not want his "beautiful family home to be used as a guinea pig for a new commission which may wish to run it in an entrepreneurial way. The National Trust has all the experience and knowledge about running such homes, gathered over generations, he said.

Lord Scarsdale also fears that the unity of the home could be jeopardized by the Government's resolve. He says he may eventually wish to offer paintings and furniture to the Government, and is concerned that if the latest restrictions prevent it from accepting, he may have to sell piecemeal to other buyers.

The Department of the Environment said: "We are still considering whether Kedleston Hall should be accepted in lieu of capital transfer tax. Weston Park has only recently been put to us, and is behind in the pipeline." It said that if either or both of the historic homes were considered important enough parts of the national heritage, they would be accepted and tax waived.

If the Government accepted estates of such size, it would normally set aside a special budget for them, the department said.

Brittan defends tax-cutting strategy

By Julian Hogg

Both tax levels and interest rates would have to rise if the Government gave way to the critics and abandoned its proposed new cuts on council spending, Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, said yesterday.

Defending the Chancellor of the Exchequer's intention to cut income tax in his Budget in March, he also said that tax cuts at the lower-end of the income scale were the most beneficial thing that could be done to restore jobs. Such cuts were "the equivalent of a pay increase without actually putting up pay," and they created incentives.

Mr Brittan, who was interviewed on London Weekend Television's *Weekend World*, said that there seemed to be an assumption that the Government should do as once what any back-bencher said. But there was a danger of the tail wagging the dog. Although recent differences had been extremely disagreeable, in each case a limited group of Conservative MPs had been involved.

Any government had a problem as to the pace at which it could make the changes it wanted. He thought there was a "lack of perspective" in discussion of the Government's present difficulties.

On the question of further restrictions on local authority spending, the subject of the fiercest dispute among Conservatives at present, Mr Brittan repeated his Cabinet colleagues' arguments that they were not proposing a cut, but a way of ensuring that the provision already agreed was adhered to.

This was in the interest of Conservative supporters, and of the country as a whole. If the level was exceeded, and the total of public expenditure increased, interest rates and taxation would rise, and the recovery now under way nipped in the bud.

Journalists get offer on technology

By Paul Routledge

A peace plan aimed at ending the four-week-old dispute at the *Postmodern News* over the introduction of new technology will be put to journalists today.

The executive of the National Union of Journalists decided at the weekend that a package of proposals put forward by the newspaper's management "could provide the basis for a comprehensive agreement."

The plan goes some way towards meeting the union's demand for sole recognition for journeymen journalists, including former printworkers displaced by the move towards direct inputting of copy by editorial staff to the typesetting computer.

An additional sentence on representation rights tabled by the company states that: "A single set of terms and conditions will apply to all unionized journalists." If accepted, it would come after the statement that "the company recognizes that the NUJ will continue to be the union to negotiate salaries and conditions on behalf of journalists."

The plan also includes proposals on training, future recruitment, breaks "off screen" and pay.

The Times overseas selling prices: Africa South £2.50, Europe £2.50, Canada £2.50, USA £2.50, India £2.50, Japan £2.50, South America £2.50, Australasia £2.50, Middle East £2.50, Far East £2.50, New Zealand £2.50, South Africa £2.50, Hong Kong £2.50, Singapore £2.50, Malaysia £2.50, Philippines £2.50, Thailand £2.50, Indonesia £2.50, Vietnam £2.50, Cambodia £2.50, Laos £2.50, Myanmar £2.50, Sri Lanka £2.50, Pakistan £2.50, Bangladesh £2.50, India £2.50, Nepal £2.50, Bhutan £2.50, Tibet £2.50, Mongolia £2.50, North Korea £2.50, South Korea £2.50, Japan £2.50, China £2.50, Taiwan £2.50, Hong Kong £2.50, Macao £2.50, Philippines £2.50, Thailand £2.50, Indonesia £2.50, Vietnam £2.50, Cambodia £2.50, Laos £2.50, Myanmar £2.50, Sri Lanka £2.50, Pakistan £2.50, Bangladesh £2.50, India £2.50, Nepal £2.50, Bhutan £2.50, Tibet £2.50, Mongolia £2.50, North Korea £2.50, South Korea £2.50, Japan £2.50, China £2.50, Taiwan £2.50, Hong Kong £2.50, Macao £2.50.

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New director's first salvo

Galleries failing to attract the public

By Ronald Faux

The National Galleries of Scotland are failing miserably to match their potential, Mr Timothy Clifford, their new director, declares.

From the moment of his appointment that judgement was inevitable. The energetic and innovative former director of Manchester City Art Galleries studied the cerebral calm of the National Gallery in Edinburgh and duly observed that it must rank as the best place in the land to admire such a superb collection, chiefly because the occupants outnumbered the visiting public.

All that is about to change, however much Edinburgh's artistic pedestal may be rocked. Mr Clifford, aged 38, is keen that people should be encouraged to enjoy paintings and be informed by them. He also believes nothing should remain static for too long, and that everyone should realise an art gallery can offer more than walls lined with paintings.

His first salvo of proposals for change has fallen on the Scottish Education Department, which funds the three



Mr Timothy Clifford: in search of change galleries. So far there has been no response but his proposals would, he argues, sharply improve the returns from the galleries in terms of earning power and public interest.

It was not insignificant that in Glasgow the Barrow Collection alone attracted twice as many visitors last year than the National Gallery, the Portrait Gallery and the National

Gallery of Modern Art put together.

Glasgow has boasted that more people visit museums in the city than go to football matches. Yet Edinburgh, in spite of its festival and huge volume of tourist traffic last year, attracted only 426,134 visitors to the National Galleries, less than 20 per cent of the number visiting the National Gallery in London.

The running costs for the three Edinburgh galleries were rather less than the money spent last year on the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum.

The new broom swept on through the silent building. There were many small and large changes to be made.

Paintings were hung at a uniform level that certainly did not suit those majestic masters, painted to be looked up at. There was also a lack of information about any of the works and the background, to how, why, and when they were painted.

"People are actually very interested to know these

things," Mr Clifford said, his eye moving from a Titian masterpiece to a staircase covered with civil service carpeting and guarded by a fire extinguisher.

The galleries could do much more to educate. One junior member of staff looked after that service for all three galleries. Glasgow had 18 permanent staff and 16 from the Manpower Services Commission doing the job, he said. The National Galleries should be exactly that, and Edinburgh Metropolitan, and be envisaged "out stations" in Glasgow, Inverness, and possibly Aberdeen, where exhibits from the National Collection would be shown.

There should also be closer liaison with the Edinburgh International Festival and more retrospective exhibitions. Beyond that too much of the National Collection remained unseen. "We have 16,000 prints and drawings in this building and only space to show 48 of them at any one time," Mr Clifford said.

Cheap Atlantic fares set to rise 50% in travel boom as winter offer ends

By Michael Bailey
Transport Editor

Atlantic air fares are expected to rise sharply in the spring when the cheap winter fares offer ends. By summer the cheapest fare on the big airlines, the midweek advance purchase return, is expected to rise by nearly 50 per cent as British Airways, Pan American and Trans World Airlines seek to recoup rising costs and cash in on what is expected to be a boom year for Atlantic travel, especially from the US to Britain.

At a private meeting held recently under the wing of the International Air Transport Association, the airlines are believed to have agreed to raise the current £259 advance purchase excursion fare to around £362 in April and to £384 in July.

Over a four-month period the cheap Atlantic return will have jumped from its lowest level for years to its highest. But the one-way fare, in more direct competition with the low-cost carriers People Express and Virgin Atlantic, is planned to rise more modestly. The one-way London-New York fare of £215 is expected to rise to £233 in April and £267 in July, the same as last year.

People and Virgin are both hoping to hold their one-way fares at £122 (without meals) and £129 respectively, although People admits to heavy pressure from the falling pound.

"Our fare will stay at £129 to

London-New York economy fares			
	Mid-week advance	One-way purchase return	
Summer 83	£239	£257	
Winter 83	£236	£199	
Summer 84	£249	£267	
Winter 84	£239	£215	
Jan-March 85	£259		
Summer 85 (projected)	£384	£267	

the end of March and hopefully beyond", Virgin said yesterday. "Current carryings are above forecast levels and we are expecting a very good summer."

People expects to hold its £122 fare in dollar terms but "there is considerable pressure from the accountants to raise sterling fares to bring them back into line," a spokesman said. Forward bookings are "very healthy".

British Airways declined to make predictions in view of its impending privatization, but Pan Am expects "dramatic growth" this year.

TWA expects a 10 per cent to 20 per cent growth in Atlantic traffic in 1985.

Airline traffic from the United States to Britain and Europe, is nudging all-time winter records (the Press Association reports). "Numbers are going up and up. We carried a huge number just before Christmas and while the figures have dropped a little, the lure of the bargains at sales in London is having an effect", Pan Am said.

The dollar continues to grow ever stronger against

sterling and other European currencies.

Harrods advertised its sale in New York. Airline sources believe that such a move, coupled with their own heavy advertising of low winter fares, is bound to keep up the momentum.

For British Airways, returning valuable dollars to Britain, it is particularly good business. It reported loads up by 15 per cent on flights from the US.

TWA reported from New York that its traffic was setting first quarter records.

A British Airways spokesman said, "We know that at this time of the year the extra travellers are not business people, so we must assume they are tourists and that the London sales are one of the draws to them."

The airlines, which normally fly aircraft with scores of loss-making empty seats across the ocean, expect the upturn to continue as Americans find it is cheaper to holiday in Europe than at home. Pan Am is planning to increase its capacity by 44 per cent in the summer.

Most travellers will come from the US rather than Europe, but one hoped-for exception is British businessmen going to the US to sell products that have become a bargain there because of the strength of the dollar.

"These people travel in the more expensive first class and business class seats, which helps our overall yield," an airline spokesman said.



Going up: More than 40 hot air balloons were at Marsh Benham, near Newbury, at the weekend for the two-day Annual International Balloon Meet (Photograph: Norman Lomax).

Cheap EEC butter may cost up to 42p a pack

Thousands of tonnes of cut-price EEC butter will start appearing in the shops next week - but the consumer is unlikely to get the full benefit of the give-away.

Almost 40,000 tonnes of butter are to be sold cheaply as part of the EEC's attempt to reduce the mountain of dairy produce, standing at a record one million tonnes.

Consumer groups and retailers fear that the consumers could lose benefit up to £30 million because of the way the Government has ruled the butter should be priced.

According to the latest official prices, the average selling price for a 250 gramme pack of butter is 52p. The EEC subsidy should reduce it to 29p.

However, Mr Michael Jopling, Minister for Agriculture, and his officials have ruled that butter sells for 65p a pack, the highest price paid anywhere in Britain.

With the subsidy, the ministry's price is reduced to 42p and that is the figure Mr Jopling has ordered should be the maximum selling price.

Retailers and consumer groups have expressed concern that the packers and manufacturers could gain up to £520 a tonne if they stick to the ministry's figure rather than use the prices prevalent in the high street.

If they do not pass on any of the benefit, they stand to earn more than £20.3 million.

Concern has also been expressed at the timing of the launch. In most other EEC countries the cheap butter was made available before Christmas. In the Irish Republic it was sold for 25p a pack and in West Germany packs were free.

The trade in Britain, however, is understood to have put pressure on the farm minister for a January launch, arguing that pre-Christmas sales of butter are traditionally high while the first few weeks of the new year are the worst.

Cabinet ignored cancer link with smoking

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

The Cabinet was first told of the link between smoking and lung cancer in a report from the Government Actuary thirty years ago.

The report was accompanied by expert advice that young people should be warned of the danger. But no action was taken because of the tax revenues from cigarettes and a £250,000 grant to the Medical Research Council from the Tobacco Industry. Fifteen years elapsed before measures were introduced to discourage smoking through restrictions on advertising.

evidence is disclosed among the official documents released under the 30-year rule at the Public Record Office.

The report of an official committee, chaired by the Government Actuary, was discussed by the Cabinet's home affairs committee on February 5, 1954. The report concluded "a real association between smoking and cancer of the lung was firmly established; and the connection was causal."

Mr Iain MacLeod, the Minister of Health, said that "there was no doubt in his own mind that a relationship between smoking and lung cancer had

been established", according to the cabinet minutes.

Mr John Boyd-Carpenter, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, emphasized the importance of tobacco tax.

Lord Salisbury doubted "whether it would be proper for the Medical Research Council to accept the tobacco companies' offer of money for research". Mr Boyd-Carpenter felt that it might be embarrassing to refuse the grant.

Discussing the timing of a statement, Mr MacLeod said: "From the point of view of the tobacco companies it would be convenient if the announcement in Parliament could be made

before February 16th, so that a reference to the latter could be included in the annual report of the Imperial Tobacco Company."

The statement to the House skated over the alarming scientific evidence. After quoting the Committee's main findings, Mr MacLeod said, in Commons, on February 12th: "I would draw attention to the fact that there is so far no firm evidence of the way in which smoking may cause lung cancer or of the extent to which it does so. We must look to the results of research and its vigorous pursuit to determine further action."

action."

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Britain slow to use home banking

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

British banks must make a positive decision on home banking, according to an international survey which shows that the UK's response to the technology has been sluggish and coy.

The survey conducted by Banking Technology, an international publication on electronic banking, concludes that British banks have scarcely begun to offer services which could be provided on these systems. Either by using a specially adapted television set which receives information over the airwaves or by having their television sets connected to a cable network, viewers can

conduct transactions from home.

The survey concludes: "Of the big four clearers, only the Midland has committed itself to a proper trial, and that is on a closed internal system. The Nottingham Building Society, Bank of Scotland Homelink service, the first home banking service to be launched in the UK, has been shy of revealing results."

Germany and France, according to the survey, are moving rapidly towards using the technology on a large scale. Unexpectedly, the US response to home banking is poor.

KEY PLAYERS IN HOME BANKING		
SERVICE	OPERATORS	NO OF USERS
US		
Appause	Video/Financial Services for 11 Florida banks	850
Bankshare	Huntington National Bank Ohio	n/a
Companion-at-Home	NCR Universal Credit Union	150
Day & Night Video	First Interstate Bank, Los Angeles	250
Banking		
Direct Access	Citibank, New York	1,000
Home Banking	Bank of America, California	15,000
Home Banking	ADF for 16 subscriber banks	1,200
Interchange		
Home Teller	Madison National Bank, Washington	850
Priority	Chemical Bank, New York and franchise	10,000
Vista Banc	Toledo Trust, Ohio	150
Canada		
Grassroots Home Banking	Bank of Montreal	500
France	Major banks (via Teletel national videotext system)	320,000 Minimal terminals in place
Germany	Verbraucher Bank Deutsche Bank Dresdner Bank Postal Giro Bank Savings banks	4,000 customers (via Bildschirmtext) 20,000 B text terminals in place
UK		
Homelink	Nottingham Building Society (via Prestel) Midland Bank (own system)	n/a (47,000 Prestel terminals in place) 1,000 customers

Sources: International Videotext News, Arden Communications Inc, Videotext 84 International, Online Publications.

Hunt for gun gang after pub raid

Police were last night hunting a gang of masked armed raiders who held up a public house and attacked and robbed customers.

Six youths burst into the bar of the Half Way House at High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, near closing time on Saturday night, brandishing a sawn-off shot gun, a revolver, knives and wielding baseball bats. They demanded cash from the till and customers' wallets and jewellery. They fled after four minutes.

The landlord, Mr Martin Kelly, aged 34, was collecting glasses in the lounge bar when the gang burst in. He said: "It was terrifying. By the time I had got to the other end of the pub the robbers had gone."

Embalmed find

An inquest will be held today at Lowestoft police station on Mrs Ivy Whiting, aged 90, whose embalmed body was kept in a house in Bridge Street, Framlington, near Ipswich, for six months, before it was discovered by the police. Her daughter, Miss Hazel Whiting, is receiving hospital treatment.

Demolition delay

Conservation groups, including the Victorian Society, the Ancient Monuments Society and the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, have won a stay of demolition for the 100-year-old St Charles Home almshouses at Lower Bellingham, near Hereford, which were designed by Pugin.

Search for wife

A hundred people joined 50 police yesterday in the search for Mrs Myfanwy Jones, aged 48, who went missing after visiting friends a mile away from her home, The Crescent, in Colwyn, Clwyd, on Friday.

Fire baby dies

Shantelle Elliott, aged six months, died in hospital early yesterday, 12 hours after firemen had rescued her from a blazing terrace house, in Rock Street, Sheffield, south Yorkshire.

Coalman shot

A coal merchant, aged 63, of Lisburn, co Antrim, was ill in hospital last night after he was shot at his doorstep by one of two men attempting a hold-up.

Transplant death

Mr Alan Hutchinson, aged 51, from Loftus, Cleveland, who had a heart transplant operation at Papworth Hospital, Cambridge, on December 8, died yesterday.

Parents doubt hospital account of son's malaria

The parents of a boy who was inexplicably stricken with malaria have been told that he could have been bitten by a contagious mosquito while having blood tests at a hospital.

Mark Smith, aged 13, spent almost an hour in a treatment room with an Asian boy suffering from the disease. But his father, Mr Jim Smith, of Ernsford Grange, Coventry, said yesterday: "We are not satisfied that Mark was infected by an insect."

After meeting hospital officials, Mr Smith, a departmental manager, said: "The only other possibility is that it happened through blood transfusion." The boy developed a high temperature and tremors 11

Panic theory in Constantinou shooting death

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Reporter

Aristos Constantinou, the businessman shot dead on New Year's Day in his Hampstead home, may have been killed deliberately after his attackers wounded him in panic.

At the weekend the police said Mr Constantinou, aged 40, head of the clothing firm, was shot seven times with a small-calibre gun, apparently as he tried to flee from burglars.

The police do not know if the weapon, which fired Italian ammunition rarely seen in this



Mr Constantinou: shot seven times.

country was a revolver or an automatic pistol. The gunman, may have fired all the rounds in his weapon and then reloaded.

Up to £50,000 thought to include takings from shops, was taken from a safe in the house, but foreign currency in a second safe was untouched. Several servants were in the large house, but were unaware of what was happening.

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Labour's charter to raise standards at all-in schools

By David Lister, of The Times Educational Supplement

The Labour Party is working on a programme to raise standards in comprehensive schools.

It will call for changes in the curriculum and will surprise some party members by also recommending more home work.

The "achievement charter" will be launched in the spring in time for the county council elections in May, which the party believes education will be a key issue.

Mr Giles Radice, Labour's education spokesman, said at the weekend that higher standards of teaching and learning had to be a top priority.

He said: "It is sometimes asserted by people who ought to know better that British socialists don't care about standards. I want to nail that lie."

"The Labour Party has always been a party of high educational standards not just for the few but for the many. It is often forgotten that under the selective systems only 25 per cent of children went to grammar schools."

But he told the meeting in Cambridge of the National Council for Educational Standards that despite the success of comprehensive schools, with numbers of examination passes continuing to rise, too many children were still not achieving their potential.

The Labour programme will call for a common curriculum, which is balanced between subject areas, giving as much emphasis to practical problem solving as to theory and also a system of assessment which motivates rather than deters. It will also call on schools to be more welcoming to parents and to take home work more seriously.

Mr Radice told the conference: "An imaginative home

work policy would be the equivalent of an extra term's work a year and would also keep parents involved and interested in their children's progress."

Professor Arthur Pollard, visiting professor at the University of Buckingham and formerly professor of English at Hull University, told the conference that he had had to set up a basic English grammar course for English honours undergraduates at Hull. Some of the school leavers had come to study English at university without knowing what a subject or object was, he said.

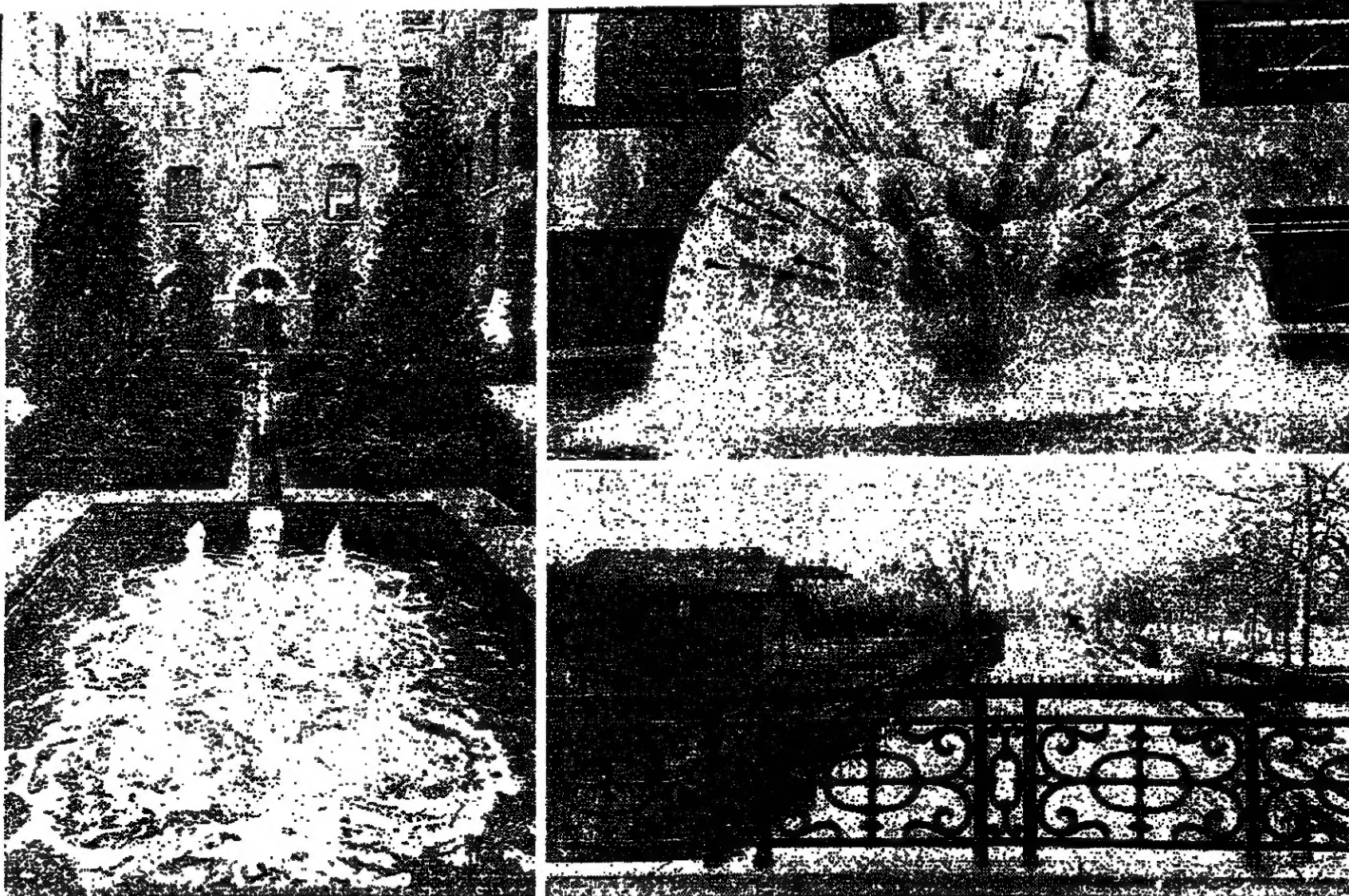
Dr Roger Scruton, reader in philosophy at Birkbeck College, London University, said his college had also had to run remedial courses in certain subjects. "History and art students have to do a course," he said. "To make up for the fact that they have no history, no modern languages, no knowledge of biblical studies and no conception of culture."

"On the whole," Dr Scruton said, "university teachers do think there has been a radical decline in standards."

Professor Brian Cox, of Manchester University, said higher education courses should be four years long with every student taking a compulsory course in English.

Professor Cox, president of the council and one of the authors of the original education Black Papers in the late 1960s, also called on Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, to stop cutting numbers in polytechnics and universities. He said it was ridiculous to do that with so many young people without jobs.

Anne Sefer, page 14



Cutlers Walk (above and top right), and Victoria Park, Hackney east London, where landscape art has been revived (Photographs: Dod Miller).

Landscape designers move into the working world

By David Nicholson-Lord

The British art of landscape design, neglected since the great days of Capability Brown and his Victorian successors, is undergoing a renaissance as the country faces up to a growing burden of dereliction and the need to reclaim despoiled land.

For 150 years, from the works of William Kent to Sir Joseph Paxton, Britain led the world in creating landscapes. A new generation of designers is now moving from the parks and gardens of the gentry into housing, office and industry.

The newly published *London Land-*

scape Guide features favourite established landscapes such as the royal parks, Kew Gardens and Paxton's designs at Crystal Palace, where huge model dinosaurs and pterosaurs still crouch and prong among lakes and islands designed 130 years ago for the Great Exhibition.

But the 51 landscapes recommended to visitors also include linear parks reclaimed from disused waterways, an indoor courtyard in Courtis Bank on the Strand, the conversion of the old East India Company's premises in the City into spacious landscaped offices and at Surrey Docks, the creation of a natural

woodland valley among the houses.

The guide, published by the Landscape Institute, is the first in a series that will cover the country. Mr Tom Turner, its joint editor, sees its publication as evidence of the reawakening interest in landscape art, the only art, he says, in which England's contribution has been decisive and pre-eminent.

One reason for that, he says, is the growth of environmentalism and the concern for "whole" environments - trees, water and plants as well as buildings. As the Liverpool garden

festival showed, landscape architects had a vital role to play.

Those involved in describing and classifying landscapes hope that it will result in the same legal protection now given to listed buildings.

A step along this road was the publication this month of a register of more than 700 historic parks and gardens in 10 countries, the first part of a countrywide exercise by the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission, designed to protect famous designed landscapes. However it only lists pre-1939 landscapes, excluding much of the ambitious new work.

Business lunches a nine-day occupation

British business people spend the equivalent of nine full working days each year entertaining colleagues and contacts over lunch, according to a report, *Efficiency at Work*, out today.

The study, commissioned by British Telecom Radiopaging, found that business lunching was on the decline, particularly in larger companies, although it still took up about one and a half hours a week, on top of normal meal breaks.

Only a third of the 500 business people interviewed considered that business lunches were effective in cost and time. Most of the 250 who said that they took expensive lunches, described these as essentially social meetings.

Business people complained that their chief frustration was being frequently without means of communication. Two-thirds of those interviewed said that failure to get in touch with others was their main difficulty, while 20 per cent said that being able to be contacted oneself was a problem.

Just over half the people surveyed claimed to be more productive now than a year ago. The Midlands emerged as the most productive area, with 61 per cent of those interviewed noting an increase in productivity, against 58 per cent of northerners, and 56 per cent in the south.

The report is used as a launch for Message Master, described as British Telecom's "most sophisticated radiopager yet", and said to receive messages of up to 70 characters, practically anywhere in the United Kingdom.

Telecom's bill system unfair, watchdog claims

Ofel (Office of Telecommunications), watchdog of the telephone industry, is considering action to prevent British Telecom from integrating the bill for its radiopaging with its normal telephone service.

The corporation launches its new alpha-numeric radiopager service today. Professor Bryan Carsberg, director-general of Ofel, is concerned that savings in administrative costs - one bill instead of two - and the marketing psychology of sending one bill could give BT an unfair advantage over its smaller competitors.

Ofel is also in the process of drawing up an acceptable code of practice to ensure that British Telecom adequately safeguards customer confidentiality. Telecom submitted a draft code last November as required by the conditions of its licence, but Ofel found it inadequate.

Professor Carsberg says in a statement: "Should it not prove possible to reach agreement I shall have to consider the use of my powers to obtain a set of adequate safeguards, and, as the last resort, seeking an amendment of the licence."

Rabbi fights dismissal in industrial court

By Sheila Beardsall

A rabbi dismissed for allegedly neglecting his members and making offensive remarks from the pulpit will be fighting his case before an industrial tribunal today.

The sudden dismissal of Rabbi Clifford Cohen, aged 36, after nine years' service has split the congregation of Southgate progressive synagogue in north London. Mr Cohen was handed his letter of dismissal after a meeting of the synagogue council last February at the start of his four months' sabbatical.

"It was a total and utter shock", Mr Cohen said. "I had just bought a house to be nearer the synagogue and was due to spend the sabbatical studying at home."

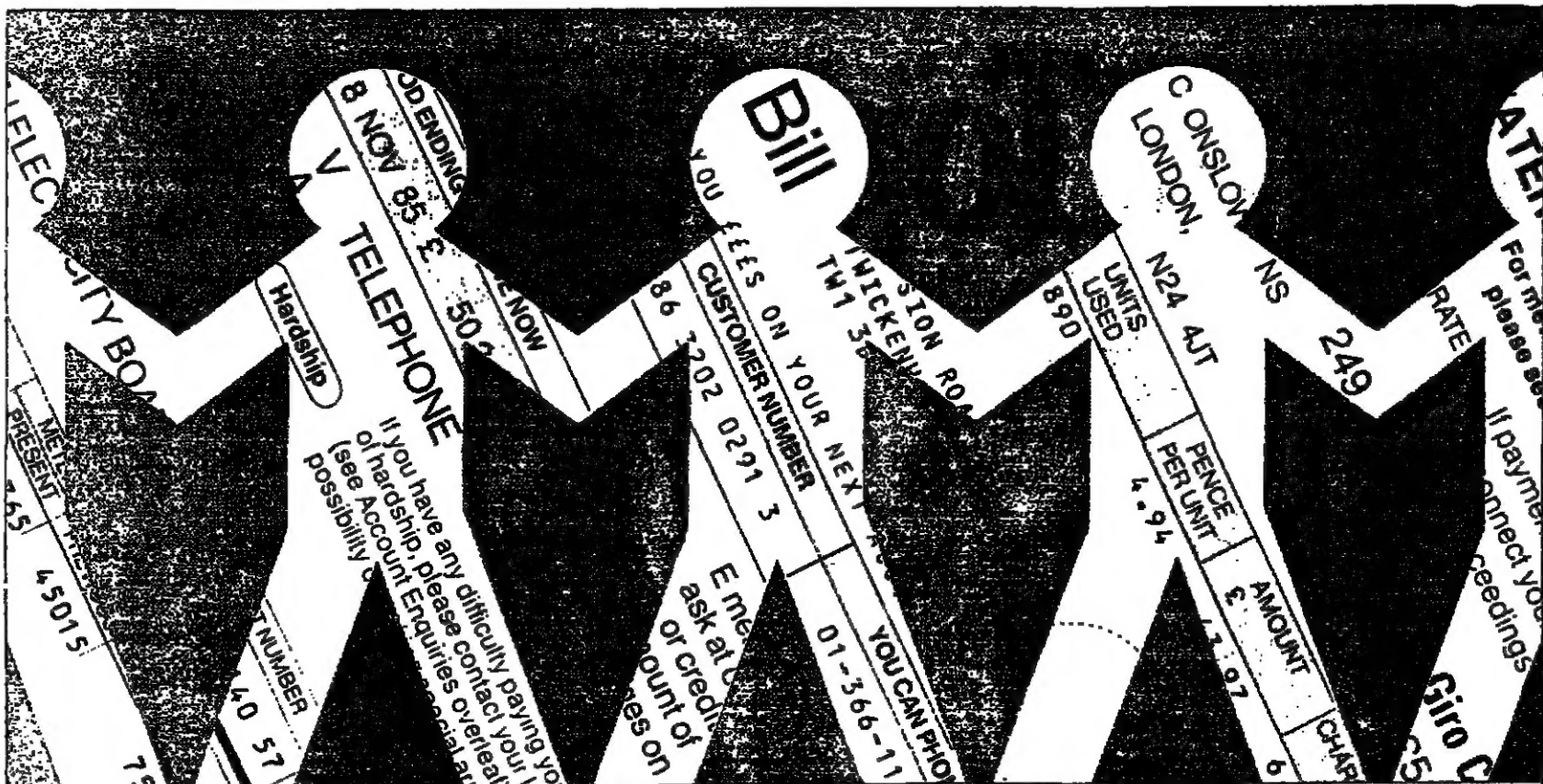
The letter referred to neglect of members and to offensive

remarks made from the pulpit but did not specify precisely what was being referred to.

Between 20 and 30 members of the congregation have left and backed Mr Cohen during his campaign against the dismissal.

"Internally within the synagogue a section of the membership demanded an extraordinary general meeting to debate a motion that I should be reinstated or to debate a second motion that the council should resign", Mr Cohen said. "At the meeting the motion that I should be reinstated was voted on and rejected by 160 votes to 132."

Mr Jonathan Whyte, chairman of the synagogue council, and Miss Hilda Schindler, its president, refused to comment.



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Army Officer

Register of MPs' interests: 1

Parkinson joined boards of nine companies after leaving Cabinet

Mr Cecil Parkinson, the former Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has picked up nine directorships since he left the Government in 1983.

He is now listed as director of Aldenham School, Babcock International, Counter Products Marketing, Parkinson Hart Securities, Save and Prosper Group, Sports Aid Foundation, Tarmac, Vanwell Data Systems, and Jarvis (Harpden) Holdings, and has shareholdings worth more than 1 per cent of the issued share capital in the last two companies.

But Mr Parkinson's boardroom good fortune is not reflected elsewhere in the current edition of the register, updated to the start of the Christmas recess.

While there were 390 directorships registered by 178 MPs a year ago, there are only 385 directorships held by 179 MPs now. There has been only one addition to the Commons list of Lloyd's members - for which candidates require free assets worth in excess of £100,000 - Mr John Maples, Conservative MP for Lewisham West, becomes the forty-eighth name.

There have been some additional directorships registered in the past year. Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, Conservative, Birmingham

The House of Commons Register of Members' Interests is being updated for publication next month. ANTHONY BEVINS, political correspondent, takes a preliminary look at the computerized printout which is available in the House.

Selly Oak, has become a director of Birmid-Quilcast; Mr Roger Freeman, Conservative, Kettering, has joined the board of McCormick International Investment; and Mr Denis Howell, Labour, Birmingham Small Heath, has become a director of Wembley Stadium Co.

However, the growth industry for MPs would appear to be in the blurred areas of consultancy.

Mr Robert Jackson, Conservative, Wantage, has become an adviser to Lazard Brothers and Co. in addition to his consultancy with Merck, Sharp & Dohme (Pharmaceuticals) and with the Brewer's Society, where he has been joined as a consultant by Mr Neil Hamilton, Conservative, Tatton.

Mr Eldon Griffiths, Conservative, Bury St Edmunds, is perhaps better known as parliamentary consultant to the Police Federation, but he has taken on an additional consultancy, to the Federation of Scale and Weighing Machine Manufacturers. He also registers two

new directorships, including the exotic-sounding In the Pink (Newmarket).

Mr John Gorsa, Conservative, Hendon North, a public relations consultant, has added the Alfred Marks Group to his list of clients, and Sir Anthony Grant, Conservative, Cambridgehire South-West, is now working for Harclay Bank.

Mr Peter Archer, Warley West, Labour's shadow Cabinet spokesman on Northern Ireland, lists himself as constitutional consultant to Good Relations (Public Affairs), a company which advises clients on public sector lobbying.

There are evidently many companies which feel the need for their own advisers in the Commons. Price Waterhouse has taken on Mr John Watts, Conservative, Slough, as its adviser and he has also become consultant to Rank Hovis McDougall.

Holidays, leisure, travel and services also feature strongly in the list of consultancies.

Tomorrow: MPs' travel.



Bishop's move: Ryan Williams, aged 10, who returns to school today after spending Christmas as a bishop. His month as diocesan head of his local church, St Nicholas's, in Bournemouth, revived a medieval tradition among churches named after the patron saint of children.

Scots pupils face exam disruption in teachers' pay action

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Scottish teachers will be balloted today on whether to refuse to undertake administrative tasks essential to preparing their pupils for this year's public examinations.

That step, which could have serious consequences for secondary school pupils and is unprecedented in Scotland, or for that matter in England and Wales, comes after three weeks of rolling strikes disrupted Scottish schools before Christmas.

At issue is a demand by Scottish teacher unions for an independent salaries review. If the ballot goes the way of recent ballots, and leads to widening of the action, such things as assessments of pupils and oral examinations will not take place.

During the next few weeks Scottish schools will again be closed or disrupted by the Educational Institute of Scotland, the biggest Scottish teachers' organization, which has 41,000 members in schools.

This term's action is the result of a ballot held before Christmas which had 86 per cent of secondary school members and 63.7 per cent of primary members voting for widening the action. Militancy in Scottish classrooms is growing fast.

The roots of the dispute go back to last April when Scottish teachers accepted a 4.5 per cent pay increase. Almost half of

the institute members wanted to reject it, so there was a determination that a bigger rise should be sought in 1984-85.

Both the institute and other unions decided to ask for a salary review and a working party into the increased workload of teachers. To that end the institute decided to boycott new curriculum development, of which there is a considerable amount north of the border.

That boycott was considered to be effective. It has held up the introduction of the micro-computer in schools and the new assessments in Scotland of individual pupils. Teachers refused to do any in-service training.

Meanwhile Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, had not yet replied to the request for a salary review. The teachers thought he was delaying unnecessarily and said that if he did not respond industrial action would be taken in December.

As a result there was a national one-day strike in December which closed schools, and strikes on a regional basis. In the middle of the month Mr Younger replied. He said that the request for a salary review would have to go back to the negotiating committee and would also look at conditions of service.

Mr John Pollock, general secretary of the institute says that the Minister's reply has made his members angrier.

Expert teams join fraud inquiry unit

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

A fraud investigation unit, combining the talents of the police, lawyers and financial experts to combat commercial frauds is to begin operations in the next few weeks.

The unit, the Fraud Investigation Group, has been operating on an ad hoc basis for 18 months. Last summer Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced that a permanent team would be formed.

The team, based in the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, is being formed and starts work later this month. One of its first investigations will cover allegations of bribery at the Property Service Agency.

The systems, similar to the task force concept much used in the United States, is intended to streamline the handling of large and complicated cases. The group will be under the control of a senior official of the DPP's office, who will be answerable to Sir Thomas Hetherington, the DPP.

The team will include civil servants seconded from the Department of Trade and Industry, several specialist accountants and legal experts from the DPP's office.

Evidence last year from the police to the Roskill committee examining the future of fraud prosecutions laid emphasis on the work the group could do in the early stages of investigations.

The evidence, presented by Sir Kenneth Newman, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, on behalf of the Associ-

ation of Chief Police Officers, said there had been criticism of the delays, irrelevance and complexity of the work prepared by police officers preparing a case before fraud charges.

"Such a problem," according to the evidence, "has been recognized for some years and the concept of the Fraud Investigation Group evolved precisely for the purpose of identifying the most productive areas of investigation with joint consultation on the evidence, its relevance and weight."

The evidence noted that the system was at an early stage, its first prosecution as an ad hoc group collapsed, and time would prove its virtues.

Up to 30 staff will be involved with the group. The aim is to provide police with direction as they investigate, indicating sources of evidence. It would speed up the practice where the police often submit reports to the DPP's staff at the end of investigations, only to find that the lawyers argue against a prosecution for lack of sufficient evidence or call for fresh inquiries.

The group comes into being at a time when the Roskill committee is hearing evidence about ways of improving the sometimes laborious and unfruitful prosecution of key fraud cases. It was born from discussions between the law officers, the Department of Trade, the Home Office and the Treasury.

The group will handle large commercial frauds and also serious malpractices within the City and its institutions.

Sabotage alert to hunts

Masters of Britain's 320 packs of hounds were warned yesterday to be on guard against a new weapon in the armoury of hunt saboteurs.

Officials are convinced the anti-hunt brigade is luring hounds away from the main pack, snatching them and claiming to have rescued them from death on main roads or railway lines.

Mr Brian Toow, for the Masters of Foxhound Association, said "the saboteurs" initiative was in evidence in the New Forest and the West Country.

The New Forest hunt was in the news last January when hounds killed two deer as a result, it is claimed, of harassment of the hounds by saboteurs.

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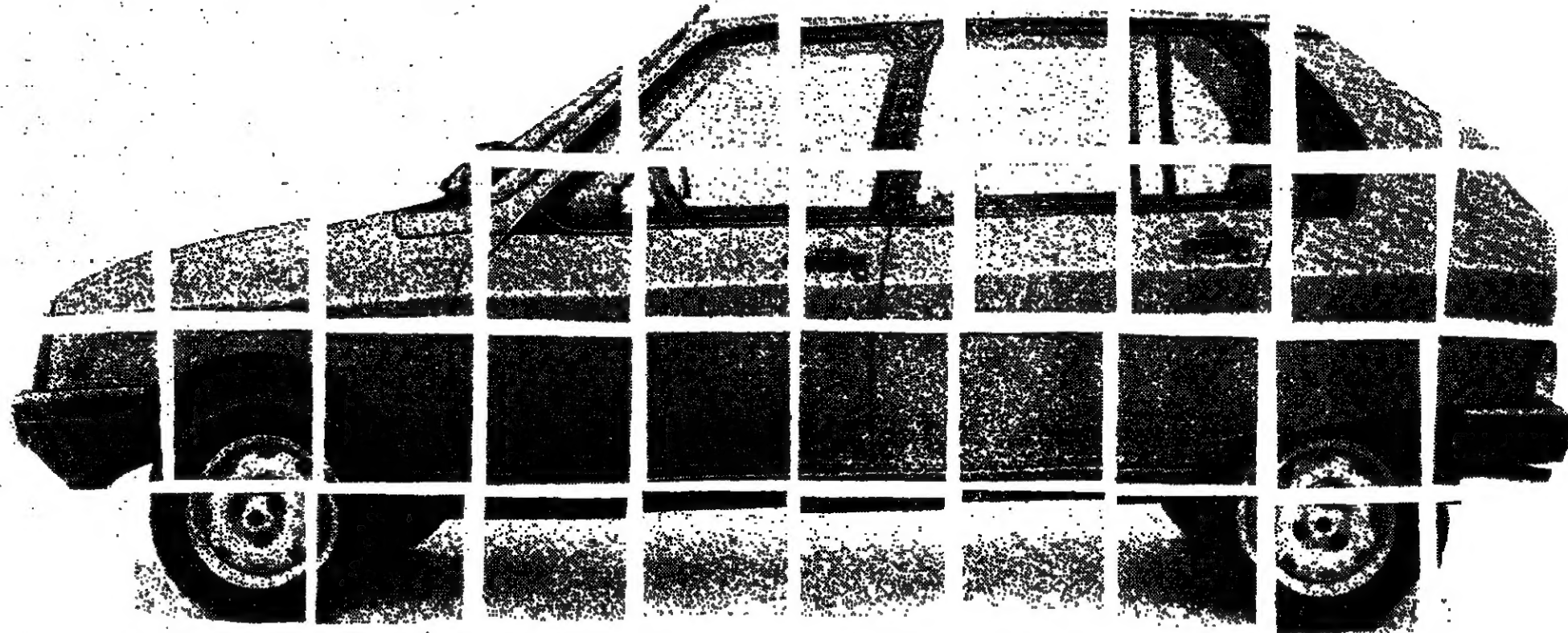
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Visit to workers' Block 88A becomes 'one of the most depressing in my lifetime'

Soweto migrants hostel shocks Senator Kennedy

From Ray Kennedy Johannesburg

Senator Edward Kennedy ended the first full day of his South African tour yesterday, stepping gingerly through the slime and filth of a migrant workers' hostel in Soweto to the total bewilderment of the inmates who clearly wondered what they had done to merit such attention.

The Senator arrived in a limousine at the Nancefield hostel, a series of single-story barracks housing thousands of Zulus and the worst and most dilapidated in Soweto. Behind him stretched a half-mile cavalcade of cars and buses carrying the other six members of his family visiting South Africa with him, his aides and security staff and a frenzied claque of media.

"What's going on? What are you doing here? Is this for television?" a young Zulu asked. Told that an important politician from America had arrived, the man shrugged and said: "I've heard of him."

Senator Kennedy ducked into Block 88A where 16 men share three rooms, each about four yards square and, standing on the bare concrete floor, peered around the gloom. There was no electric light and the windows were caked with grime.

After talking for a few

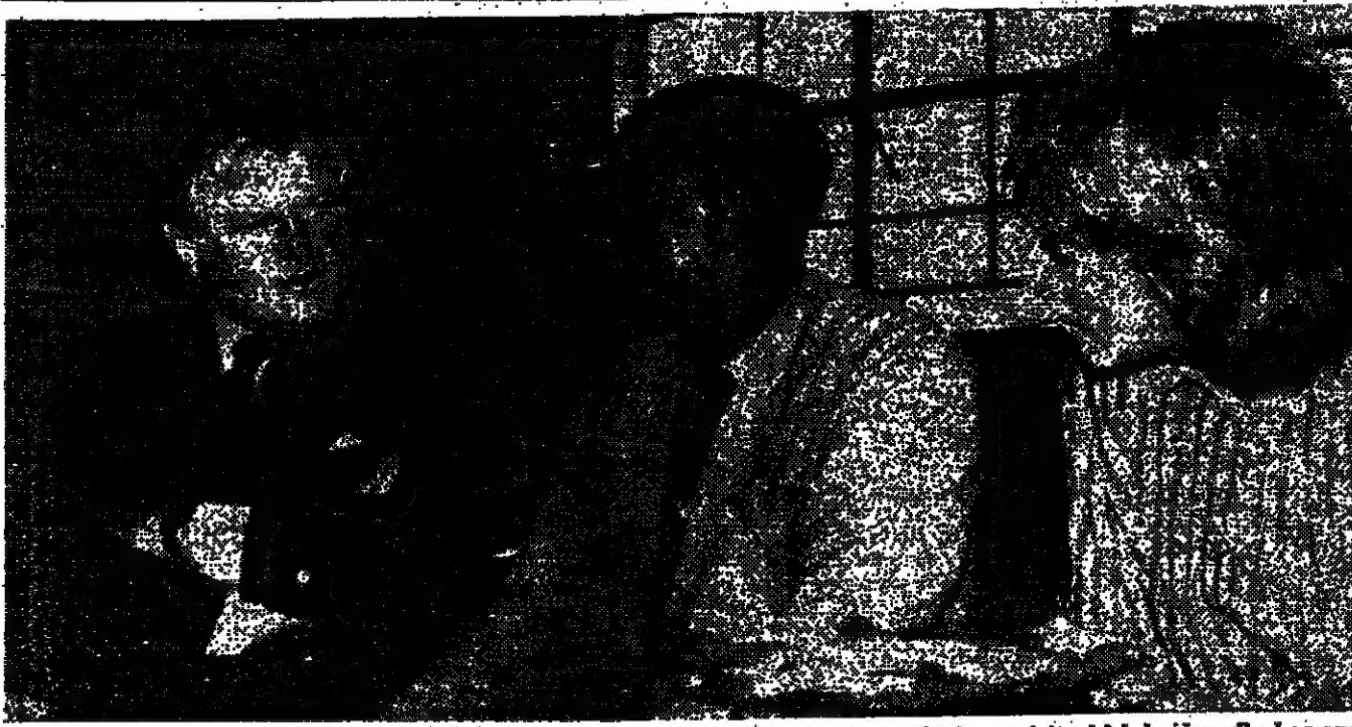
minutes to some of the men, he stepped out and walked across to the abutment block where he and his sister, Mrs Joan Kennedy Smith, and his daughter, Kara, examined the washing facilities. Then, alone, Senator Kennedy went round the back and into a stinking toilet. Clearly distressed, the Senator called the media in a circle round him.

"Here in this camp is one of the most depressing, despairing visits made to any facility in my lifetime," he said. "Here individuals are caught between trying to provide for their families or living with their families."

"I don't know of any other place in the world where that kind of harsh, difficult choice has to be made by any people who believe in family life, who believe in children, who care about children having the opportunity of being with their fathers and mothers. I find it appalling."

Earlier, Senator Kennedy and his family attended mass in St Pius' Roman Catholic church in the Mofolo district of Soweto close to the home of Bishop Desmond Tutu, the Anglican Bishop-elect of Johannesburg and Nobel Peace Prize winner, where he had spent the night.

After Mass, the party visited



Seeing for himself: Senator Kennedy talks to a migrant worker in a Soweto hostel during a visit which he described as one of the most distressing of his life.

three Soweto families in their small "matchbox" homes, spending about 15 minutes in each house. He said he had encountered "some of the most courageous, bravest, warmest men, women and children I have met anywhere." Their overwhelming concern, he said, was for higher quality education aid for change to be brought about peacefully.

Apart from the places he stopped at, there was no massive turnout to watch the Kennedy progress and the Senator remarked that he had also seen the other side of the

story when supporters of the Black Consciousness Azanian People's Organization (Azapo) demonstrated against his visit at Johannesburg airport on Saturday night. He called it an example of the polarization that takes place "when peaceful change is made impossible or difficult."

Azapo has condemned the Senator's visit because it says that like that of his brother, Robert, in 1966 it is designed solely to serve his own political ends in the United States.

As Senator Kennedy emerged into the main airport concourse about two dozen Azapo demonstrators brandishing posters shouted: "Kennedy go home." The Senator, accustomed as any politician is to a bit of heckling, was unruffled but airport police reacted violently, tearing into the demonstrators, ripping up their posters and temporarily detaining nine of them.

Some television crews who had flown in from New York on the same aircraft could hardly believe their luck. A local journalist watching the scene as the police waded in, sighed wearily: "Will they ever learn?"

Namibia issue heads Howe-Mugabe talks

From Jan Raath, Harare

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the British Foreign Secretary, today will have what are expected to be important but undramatic discussions here with Mr Robert Mugabe, the Zimbabwean Prime Minister.

He arrived here on Saturday on the first leg of a three-nation African tour that is largely to allow him to familiarize himself with a region in which he has not been intimately involved.

He leaves here on Tuesday for Zambia and Kenya. Sources said Mr Mugabe and Sir Geoffrey with Dr Witness Mangwende, the Zimbabwean Foreign Minister, would be discussing a wide range of bilateral and international issues, with Namibia and South Africa in the forefront.

Mr Mugabe is expected to be urging Sir Geoffrey to use

Britain's influence as a world power to put pressure on South Africa to both speed up progress to Namibian independence and to express Britain's distaste with apartheid. The sources said Mr Mugabe was unlikely to press Britain to institute economic sanctions against South Africa.

Gas leak at factory in Kerala

Delhi (AFP, Reuters) - More than 45 employees of a textile factory in the southern Indian state of Kerala were taken to hospital after inhaling chlorine gas, the United News of India agency reported.

The agency said 42 people were still in hospital, recovering from the effects of the poisonous gas which leaked on Friday from the process section of the Madurai Coats factory.

The Government has ordered an inquiry into the accident. Meanwhile, *The Times of India* said at least four villages in western Gujarat state had been affected by a gas leak from a chemical factory.

Drug suspects flown to US

Washington (Reuters) - Four alleged international drug traffickers were extradited from Colombia to the United States, at the weekend in a secret operation, the US Attorney-General Mr William French Smith, announced.

The four fugitives, who face charges of conspiring to distribute cocaine, were flown from Bogota to Florida in a Colombian plane. It was the first extradition of drug suspects from Colombia under a new treaty.

Model murdered

New York (Reuters) - Sarah Lantos, a 29-year-old model for top Milan and Paris fashion houses, has been identified as one of three murder victims found in a Manhattan apartment block. The others were a Hungarian-born male photographer and a woman artist.

Bulow retrial

Providence, Rhode Island (Reuters) - Claus von Bulow will be retried on April 2 on charges that he twice tried to murder his heiress wife, Rhode Island's Supreme Court overturned his 1982 conviction after ruling that some evidence was gathered improperly.

Policemen die

Muscat (Reuters) - Twenty-five Omani policemen died when their bus collided with a petrol tanker on a desert road to the oil settlement of Fahud, 175 miles south-west of Muscat.

Dissidents freed

Vienna (Reuters) - Seven leading members of the Charter 77 human rights group, detained in Prague last Thursday before the eighth anniversary of the charter's publication, have been released.

Peru skirmish

Ayacucho, Peru (Reuters) - Ten Indian peasants and four Maoist Shining Path guerrillas were killed in a clash high in the Andes. Twenty villagers were injured in the fighting in the Mancheta area.

Widow dies

Santiago (Reuters) - Matilde Urrutia, widow of Chile's Nobel prize-winning poet Pablo Neruda, has died of cancer in Santiago at the age of 70. She was the poet's third wife.

Moscow apology for drone cheers up Scandinavians

From Olli Kivinen, Helsinki

The unprecedented speed with which the Russians apologised for the misdirected missile - or "drone" as Moscow called it - which flew through Norwegian air space and crashed in Finland last week, has been greeted warmly in Scandinavian countries.

Observers agree that the apology was a genuine attempt by Moscow to prevent any additional difficulties arising at today's discussions in Geneva on arms reduction between the American Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, and the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Andrei Gromyko. But they also feel that the Russians are trying to lessen tension in the Nordic countries, caused by alleged incursions by Soviet submarines over the past year and by worries over the siting of cruise missiles.

The prompt Russian reaction is also seen as a sign that Soviet information practices are being modernized to avoid public relations disasters like the aftermath of the shooting down of the Korean airliner in 1983. However, the incident has underlined the problems created by the new missiles and Norway, Sweden and Finland are once again carefully studying the performance of their own air defence. Should no arms reduction agreement be reached, all three countries are certain to be forced to invest heavily in air defence.

The OSCE, Norwegian aircraft were scrambled 371 times in 1984 to intercept Soviet planes off northern Norway, almost double the 1983 figure. Reuters reports: A defence ministry spokesman said the increase was probably caused by improved Norwegian detection equipment, and not by an increase in Soviet flights.

Ozal sacks minister in reshuffle

From Kasit Gundlek, Ankara

The Turkish Government was rocked at the weekend by a reshuffle triggered by the forced resignation of Mr Ismail Ozdaglar, Minister of State, accused by the Prime Minister of "serious corruption".

Mr Ozdaglar was replaced by Mr Cemal Buyukbas, who handed over his energy portfolio to Mr Sadi Tuncel, another State Minister, and by Mr Turgut Ozal, the Prime Minister.

Mr Turgut Mustafiz Tuz, a deputy of the ruling Motherland Party, was promoted to ministerial rank to fill the state ministry vacancy.

The reshuffle came less than three months after the replacement of the finance and interior ministers to end a damaging feud over the investigation of a major customs scandal.

When the resignation of Mr Ozdaglar, a protégé of the Prime Minister, was announced on Saturday "health reasons" were given as the cause.

But the move triggered speculation that it might be the result of a persistently reported power struggle between fundamentalist and nationalist factions within the Motherland Party.

This forced the Prime Minister to late that night to announce that the Justice Ministry had been ordered to investigate "serious allegations of corruption against the former state minister".

Mr Ozdaglar denied any involvement in irregularities, but the Prime Minister said yesterday he had requested the resignation to enable investigation of the charges, without elaborating on their nature.

Meanwhile, 40 Motherland Party deputies headed by Mr Halil Sivgin, a deputy party chairman and reputed leader of the ultra-nationalist faction, tabled a motion for a parliamentary investigation.

Lonely village bachelors advertise for brides

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

All the men of marriageable age in an isolated Aragon village in northern Spain have made a collective appeal for young women to come and marry them to help save the traditional mountain way of life threatened by depopulation.

In Plan, nestled under the Pyrenees which form the frontier with France, there are 150 bachelors.

They put an advertisement in *Nueva España*, their nearest daily newspaper in Huesca. "Come and see us," the bachelors pleaded in the advertisement. "We'll organize a dance and you can get to know our village."

By yesterday, they had 50 replies.

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Gandhi promises Punjab solution but refuses to bow to 'cult of violence'

From Kuldip Nayyar, Delhi

India will solve the Punjab problem without yielding to separatist ideologies and to the cult of violence, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister, has told the nation.

Outlining Government policy on Saturday in his first television and radio broadcast since last month's election victory, Mr Gandhi promised to give priority to resolving the problem, caused by Sikh extremist demands for a separate state.

The recently appointed Cabinet committee would study various aspects of the issue and suggest a solution within a specified time-frame, he said.

Despite a tough attitude to the extremists, Mr Gandhi held out an olive branch to the Sikh community. He said: "In ending the sad chapter of discord, all should cooperate. The Sikhs are as much a part of India as any other community."

In general Mr Gandhi broke no new ground but came out firmly on the side of secularism, cleanliness and modern technology.

He said the election had presented "a mandate for unity, for strength, for harmony."

He intended to reorganize the education system so as to forge links with the "productive forces of society."

On foreign policy, Mr Gandhi reiterated India's old line of nonalignment, saying it has served the national interest.

Meanwhile, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, a former foreign minister and the Bharatiya Janata Party chief, has demanded an impartial inquiry into the recent general elections.

He has charged the ruling Congress (I) with indulging in widespread malpractices.

This allegation has also been made by Mr Chapan Singh,

former Prime Minister and the chief of the Dalit Mazdoor and Kisan Party and the Janata Party which was in power from 1977 to 1979.

● **ECONOMIC REFORM:** Mr Gandhi yesterday signalled a reform of economic planning, by overhauling the Planning Commission, the country's highest economic policy-making body, expanding it to include finance, trade and industry experts (Reuters reports).

He switched Mr Manmohan Singh, Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, the country's central bank, to the deputy chairmanship of the commission. Also appointed Mr Raja Chelliah, a public finance expert, Mr Hiten Bhaya, a technocrat, and Mr Abid Husain, the country's top trade civil servant.

Kohl facing tough half-term fight

In this first of two articles Michael Binyon reports from Bonn on the Government's performance.



WEST GERMAN POLITICS

Part 1



Herr Genscher: Herr Kohl: To step down. Dents prestige.

On March 6 Chancellor Helmut Kohl will be half way through his first term of office, and a series of elections four days later in Saarland, Berlin and Hesse will be a good indication of what the voters think of his stewardship.

Herr Kohl, who revels in the hurry-burry of campaigning, will be fighting hard for a good result for his Christian Democratic coalition. He needs to do well. For though there is no threat to his Government, which enjoys a comfortable majority in the Bundestag, heavy losses by his party would again raise questions about the Chancellor's own authority and leadership, and might lead to a new and destructive round of bickering between the three parties in the coalition.

Despite his assertion in his new year message that 1984 was on the whole a good year, most people would see it as one in which gaffes and scandals dominated the political scene.

The resignation of two senior government figures — Otto Graf Lambsdorff, the Economics Minister, and Herr Rainer Barzel, the Bundestag Speaker — the almost farcical bungling by the Defence Minister of his dismissal of General Kissel, the abortive amnesty for irregular donors to party funds, the Flick affair — all these things left large dents in Herr Kohl's prestige.

The Chancellor implicitly acknowledged that he had to do more to streamline his Government when he appointed a new Cabinet-rank head of his chancellery to coordinate decision-making. But there are still threats to the stability of his administration which will demand considerable political skill and his renowned strong nerves.

The main one is the weakness of the Free Democratic Party (FDP), the junior partner in the coalition. They have lost so many votes in recent elections that the party is now underrepresented in the European Parliament and in half the federal state parliaments. The consequent turmoil in the party has left it bruised and without a sense of identity and direction.

The FDP has still not accommodated itself to the switch of loyalties from the Social Democrats to the Christian Democrats in 1982, and has felt the need to be a prickly partner in its new alliance simply in order to achieve a visible liberal profile. This has led it to seek confrontation with

the right-wing Bavarian-based Christian Social Union, whose leader, Herr Franz Josef Strauss has been only too eager to reduce the FDP influence, believing with some justification that the party is over-represented in the Cabinet.

The principal victim has been the FDP leader, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, who has announced that he will soon step down after 10 years, but who wants to remain Vice-Chancellor and Foreign Minister. But Herr Genscher is now a political chess piece, slowly fading so that only his incurable optimism remains. If he is replaced by Herr Martin Bangemann, the Economics Minister, who is something of a lightweight politically, if not physically, the Genscher-Kohl axis on which the present coalition rests, will be broken.

Two things, however, will work strongly in Herr Kohl's favour in the coming months. The first is West Germany's remarkable recovery — "the third economic miracle" — as some commentators have said.

Secondly, Herr Kohl can depend on the Social Democratic opposition remaining weak and split. The party is far from being a credible alternative government at the moment, and the Greens, though riding high, still command only 11 per cent of the vote.

The only dangers on the horizon are further damaging revelations from that political molech, Flick, including the eventual trial of Count Lambsdorff. Also, Herr Kohl will have to show considerable adroitness and sensitivity, for which he is not noted, if the coming anniversary of the end of the war is not to become a painful raking up of old emotions and a further source of tension with Eastern Europe.

Tomorrow: The opposition

Israel bank scandal to be exposed

From Moshe Brilliant Tel Aviv

Israel's Cabinet yesterday decided to set up a commission of inquiry into the 1983 bank shares scandal which wiped out the savings of hundreds of thousands of Israelis.

An official statement said the Cabinet launched the investigation in the light of the State Controller's report last week blaming the Treasury, the Central Bank and the securities authority for failing to halt "manipulative regulation" by major banks of their own shares on the Stock Exchange over a decade and creating a "time bomb" which exploded in October, 1983.

Mr Yitzhak Tulk, the controller, recommended an independent inquiry commission equipped with judicial powers to provide an exhaustive answer to the question of responsibility for the crisis.

His report did not name individual office holders in the institutions he had criticized and did not assess the responsibilities of the banks, politicians or the Stock Exchange because he lacked authority over them.

Some Cabinet ministers and MPs have shown concern that a public inquiry might sap confidence at home and abroad in the Israeli banking system. Israeli banks owe billions of dollars deposited by overseas companies and individuals.

Officials have called on the heads of commercial banks, the Governor of the Bank of Israel and others under a cloud to resign and obviate the need for an inquiry. However, no one has acknowledged wrongdoing, every suspect blaming somebody else.

Mr Tulk objected to the Government appointing the inquiry commission, saying the Government itself would be under investigation. He said the task should be done by the parliamentary state audits committee, which had ordered his investigation.

But when the committee met last week, Likud deputies blocked a decision.

The Cabinet yesterday delegated a committee of five, headed by the Prime Minister, to prepare recommendations for setting up the inquiry.

Differences between the coalition partners about the proposed terms of reference showed with Likud members saying it should go back to the period when Labour was in power in 1973. This was when the banks started buying and selling their own shares to inflate their quotations. Labour says the situation got out of hand in 1979 during the Likud administration.



On top of it all: Tenzing Norgay in his sixties, and during a practice climb for Everest in 1953.

Tenzing, laid low but still conquering

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Sherpa Tenzing Norgay lies in a Delhi bed: the conqueror of Everest brought low by a lung infection.

Lung ailments frequently afflict mountain men. "It's not the high altitude," he says with a smile, showing a row of strong yellow teeth. "For me I get sick at low altitudes."

The shy mountaineering hero, whose exploit made the centre of one of the biggest scoops of *The Times* 200-year history, is curled up in red and white striped pyjamas in a private ward in the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences

hospital, where the assassinated Indira Gandhi was taken two months ago. His eyes, not piercing now but rheumy like smoky topaz, are active still, watching three of his six teenage children play to pass the time.

He remembers *The Times* man who came on the expedition, "Colonel Hunt, he was Lord Hunt later, said he didn't want to touch all this publicity. But then when we were about to set off we found there were 13 of us. John Hunt said that was unlucky, so we

brought along this man from *The Times*, James Morris was his name."

"A funny thing," said the Sherpa, half wondering whether to broach the subject. "He became a lady." (James Morris became Jan Morris after a sex-change operation.)

He remembered Morris's inexperience as a mountaineer. "He was just a beginner. This was his first time. He was pretty good at high altitude, but about technical points he knew nothing. He walked round the Khumba ice fall all right."

When Tenzing came off the mountain in 1953 he was an instant celebrity. A mountain climbing school was set up in Darjeeling, where he passes on the techniques of his profession.

It was at the school a month or more ago that the wiry Sherpa caught pneumonia.

Tenzing is looking forward to the arrival next month of Sir Edmund Hillary, who accompanied him to the top of Everest. Sir Edmund has just been appointed High Commissioner for New Zealand in Delhi.

SELF-EMPLOYED? NO PENSION WITH YOUR JOB? KEEP THIS PAGE. WHAT'S THE BEST TIME TO START YOUR OWN PENSION PLAN?

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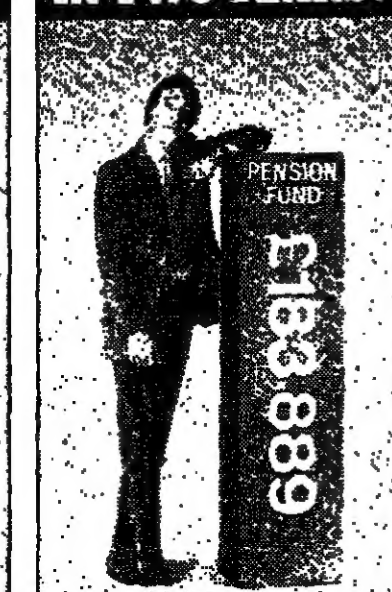
Mr G Builder aged 48. Wanting to retire at 65, he can afford to save £150 gross a month, having paid off his mortgage (After tax relief at 30% it will cost only £75 per month). Full Pension £18,825 p.a. or Lump Sum £37,909 plus Reduced Pension £12,637 p.a.

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Chinese writers wary of freedom

From David Bonavia, Peking

Observers of the Chinese scene here are reacting sceptically to the promise of new freedoms for writers in the People's Republic. They point out that the backlash against such liberalizing moves in the

past has always been rapid and severe.

The fourth national congress of the Chinese Writers' Association in Peking has adopted a constitution which calls on writers to be bold in their social

critique and artistic experiments. More than 800 delegates from all over China and from Hong Kong have exchanged experiences in what is officially called "a flourishing scene of a hundred flowers blooming."

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Vietnamese gun crews 'using gas shells'

Bangkok (AP) — Vietnam and the Khmer Rouge guerrillas both claimed yesterday to have inflicted large casualties in battles along the Thai-Cambodian border and elsewhere in Cambodia.

Vietnam's Communist Party newspaper *Nhan Dan* claimed about 10,000 guerrillas were put out of action during the past year, and several of their sanctuaries were destroyed.

The radio of the Khmer Rouge, one of the three major Cambodian resistance groups, claimed 2,563 Vietnamese soldiers were killed and 2,332 others wounded in the December fighting.

The radio alleged the Vietnamese had been firing shells loaded with gas that killed 63 guerrillas and injured 47 others at the key Cambodian base of Rithien.

Opposition leader tries to outwit Marcos

From Keith Dalton Manila

Mr Salvador Laurel, head of the largest opposition group in the Philippines yesterday announced his candidacy should a snap presidential election be called as he expects in May or June. He also expects President Marcos to field his wife as the ruling New Society Movement (KBL) candidate.

"I will definitely run for the presidency to put an end to the Marcos dictatorship," Mr Laurel told the opposition newspaper *Malaya*. "I am willing to face the candidate of the KBL, whoever he or she may be."

Mr Laurel, aged 55, said Mr Marcos was sick and might not see out his term, which ends in 1987. The President, aged 67, wanted to see his powerful wife, Imelda, "carefully installed in power" in an election he could manipulate to ensure her victory. *Malaya* quoted Mr Laurel as saying:

"I think the President will make Imelda run." Mr Laurel said last week. "He will want an election to come before he dies."

Mr Marcos has appeared rarely on Government television and not at all in public since November 14 when he fell ill with what his doctor said were early signs of the flu. Observers believe he has a serious kidney ailment.

As head of the 12-party alliance, Unido, Mr Laurel is the most senior opposition leader to announce his candidacy in an election which many opposition leaders believe will come before 1987 with the death or resignation of Mr Marcos.

Mr Laurel's informal announcement surprised Unido's secretary, General Rene Espina, who admitted that the alliance's national convention next month to discuss possible presidential contenders would be confronted with a virtual *fait accompli*.

Falashas blame press for the halting of Operation Moses

From Christopher Walker, Ashkelon, Israel

The mood of euphoria among the black Jews recently rescued from Ethiopia has been transformed to anger and bitterness against the world's press, which many blame for publicizing their dramatic flight to Israel and thus forcing its premature cancellation.

Two Falasha youths yesterday approached a group of journalists in the hotel in this Mediterranean town where many Falashas are being temporarily housed.

They were brandishing their fists and had to be physically restrained by Israeli voluntary workers. "It is because of you that our families are suffering, and may never get here," one of them shouted in Hebrew. "It is all right for you: you have food to eat. They do not."

To demonstrate their fury, 150 of the new immigrants at Ashkelon's main centre for the refugees had locked themselves in their rooms and refused any co-operation with a special press centre arranged by the Jewish Agency.

Before the bus carrying the journalists arrived in Ashkelon, the press had been warned that they could be in danger because of the resentment of the Falashas, nearly every one of whom appears to have relatives stranded in transit camps in Sudan, or in Ethiopia.

Mr. Mordcha Dolinsky, spokesman for the agency's immigration department, said: "You will find that the word 'journalist' is not going to be regarded with a great deal of

sympathy in the places that you are going to. We are worried for your safety."

Despite the ill feeling—which has been directed against the agency officials as well as the media—the trip went ahead in what a spokesman described as an effort "to inform the world" of the attempt the Israelis are making to cope with the formidable and costly task of integrating the new arrivals from one of Africa's most primitive regions.

The officials were embarrassed by accusations by leading Falashas, including Mr. Rahamin Elazar, head of the Public Council for Ethiopian Jewry and himself a refugee, that the Jewish Agency had conspired with the Israeli Government to leak news of the operation to sabotage it.

Mr. Elazar's conspiracy theory was shared by a number of Ethiopian Jews whom I spoke to here and in the near by town of Kfar Yotz, where 289 Falashas now live in a centre built to house Jews coming from the Soviet Union and Romania.

They argued that the Government had called a press conference to publicize the airlift because it did not want the problem of assimilating the 12,500 Ethiopian Jews who are still in Africa, many still trekking overland to transit points. The allegation was dismissed as "nonsense" by a spokesman for the Israeli Cabinet.

American-style t-shirt and speaking in broken Hebrew picked up during his two months in Israel, told *The Times*: "We just do not understand why the Israelis spoke out as they did about our escape. I have a father and brother still in Ethiopia, and I am afraid that now I will never see them again."

The anger at the action of the Jewish Agency leaders who first publicized Operation Moses was not restricted to the new immigrants. A high-ranking but anonymous Government official told *Israel Radio* that the two men should be "court martialled".

Among the many problems facing the authorities here is the fact that some 80 per cent of the new arrivals are illiterate. "We not only have to teach them Hebrew. We have to teach them also how to read and write," said Mrs. Olga Azman, an Israeli of Moroccan origin who was patiently teaching basic lessons.

"We have to give them hope that somehow something can still be done for those left behind," she said.

● **KHARTOUM:** Sudan yesterday denied reports that it had helped in the resettlement of the Falashas in Israel (Reuters reports).

But a Foreign Ministry statement did not deny that refugees fleeing Ethiopia might include Falashas.

Israel's triumph, page 14



Let's play: An Israeli child in Ashkelon tries to visit two Falasha children, despite the wire that separates them, and their different languages and cultures.

Christmas surprise for Geldof

Addis Ababa (AP) — Bob Geldof, the British pop star who put together the Band Aid Christmas record, to raise money for Ethiopian famine victims, arrived here yesterday to help determine how some \$6 million from the disc should be spent.

Geldof flew in from London on the Christmas Eve of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church bringing 50 copies of the single *Do They Know It's Christmas?* for distribution to government officials.

He also gave a copy to Mother Teresa of Calcutta, whom he met at the airport. "I didn't know it was going to be Christmas here," Geldof told reporters and welcoming officials.



60m quest: Pop star Bob Geldof arriving in Addis Ababa yesterday to study Ethiopia's famine relief operations.

Kinnock fears Nicaragua 'Vietnam'

Mr. Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, left Heathrow yesterday for a week's visit to Central America. He will have talks in Mexico with the country's economic and foreign ministers, before going to Nicaragua, where he will attend the inauguration of the country's first democratically elected President.

Before leaving he said: "I'm going to give support to an infant democracy. It is in some danger from external attacks and is still at war in some areas. I think it is important to

recognize democracy and stop any moves which could push it into the arms of the Eastern bloc.

"It is vital not to let Nicaragua become the Vietnam of the 1990s. That would be no help to anyone."

The Labour leader was reluctant to comment at length on the fate of dissidents within the Soviet Union who he had been promised during his recent visit to Moscow would soon be released to the West. He appealed to relatives to "wait a little longer for the slow wheels

of the Soviet machinery to work."

● **SAN JOSE:** Costa Rica has recalled its ambassador to Nicaragua for consultations following a change of attitude by a Nicaraguan youth who left sanctuary in the Costa Rican embassy in Managua on Christmas Eve (Martha Honey writes).

No embassy employees were present, when Urbina Lara left and he was shot in the leg by a Sandinista security guard.

Republicans upstage Reagan on budget

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Senate Republicans, under the direction of Senator Robert Dole, the new majority leader, have wrested control of the 1986 budget from President Reagan, saying he has failed to show leadership in curbing record fiscal deficits.

Senior Republican officials said at the weekend they would write their own budget and complete it by February 1, four days before the President's programme is sent to Congress.

Senator Dole yesterday sought to play down the revolt, saying Republicans were "not trying to take over the writing of the budget but rather to improve on the President's plan."

He added: "We would like to do a little better."

But both Republican and Democratic leaders publicly criticized Mr. Reagan for failing in public against crippling fiscal deficits he shows little inclination to cut.

They say Mr. Reagan has effectively abdicated control of fiscal policy by producing another budget which will be "dead on arrival" when it reaches Congress because it fails to address the problems of the growth deficit.

After months of divisive internal debate, Mr. Reagan's

nearly completed budget falls far short of his deficit reduction goals, producing cuts which leave the nation with deficits estimated at \$178 billion (\$155bn) next year and \$139 billion by 1988.

The announcement of a separate Senate Republican budget reflected not only the unhappiness of party leaders with Mr. Reagan's plan but also the emerging power of Senator Dole, demonstrating clearly and quickly his independence from the White House.

Senator Dole, a leading contender for the Republican presidential nomination in 1988, said the Senate version will encompass areas the President had declared "off limits", including probable cuts in defence spending and social security benefits, and possibly tax increases.

Senator Dole has previously indicated that the Senate Republicans would support the idea of a budget freeze.

He said the Senate Republicans intended to meet the President's original goal of halving the deficit to \$100 billion over three years and producing a balanced budget by 1990.

Zaccaro considers plea

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Mr. John Zaccaro, husband of Ms. Geraldine Ferraro, the former democratic vice-presidential contender, is said to be considering a plea of guilty involving a falsified sales contract for five apartment buildings in Queen's, New York City. Questions about Mr. Zaccaro's financial dealings and real estate transactions became a critical issue during Ms. Ferraro's unsuccessful campaign.

His lawyer was quoted yesterday as saying that discussions about the case had been under way with the Manhattan district attorney's office. Mr. Zaccaro had been told to be available over the weekend to discuss questions of indictment and a plea.

Spain angry over death of fisherman

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Spain has demanded a full investigation by Portugal into Saturday's fatal shooting by Portuguese coastguards of an Andalusian fisherman apparently trying to smuggle into Spain a catch of prawns he had obtained in Portuguese waters.

The incident is the most serious yet between the two countries, who have been quarrelling over fishing rights since December 1982.

Madrid has condemned as "grossly disproportionate" the death of the fisherman, shot through the heart apparently as he was trying to escape.

Señor Juan Flores, aged 35, from Ayamonte, was detained with his small boat near Vila Real de Santo Antonio, just across the Guadiana river.

The incident is all the more serious because Spain and Portugal are trying to settle their fishing dispute before entering the European Community.

Bishops' unholy split on Swedish tax exiles

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

Swedish bishops are embroiled in an argument over what is equal — high taxation or the flight of tax payers to other countries.

The Right Rev. Bishop of Stockholm, the Right Rev. Kristian Stenlund, appointed last year after many years in America, began it all with a sermon that said the flight of many Swedes into tax exile — most of them to London — was a sin.

He said that escaping high taxes was "particularly serious and cruel" when refugees from other countries were coming to Sweden because they had

Assad turns his back on Arafat and PLO

from Robert Fish, Beirut

President Assad of Syria effectively deprived Mr. Yasser Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organization of Syrian recognition at the weekend, claiming that only the real PLO in Damascus — "All the real Palestinian fighters", as he put it — would receive his help in future.

Addressing the Syrian Baath Party's eighth general congress, President Assad accused Mr. Arafat of being worse than the late Egyptian President Sadat.

Mr. Assad pointedly said next to the former Speaker of the PLO's "Parliament in Exile", who was deprived of his position on Mr. Arafat's advice last month. The congress, televised live by the Syrian state broadcasting authorities, gave more than just this hint about the way things were moving in Damascus.

Two of Lebanon's principle Muslim militia leaders and government ministers — Mr. Nabih Berri and Mr. Walid Jumblatt — who are only five places from the Syrian leader, spent much of his speech praising the resistance to the Israeli occupation army in southern Lebanon. He lavished immense praise on "sister Syria" for President Assad's involvement in Lebanon.

In contrast, Mr. Jumblatt gave only a short address in which he referred to the Syrians as "allies" but nothing more.

Mr. Jumblatt has in any case been explaining at some length to the Syrians why his Druze militia still feels unable to permit the Lebanese Army to control the coastal road south of Beirut. He says — publicly at least — that he believes the army will cooperate with the Phalangist militia in holding onto the narrow strip of territory north of the Israeli line above Sidon. It is presumably for this reason that fighting persisted throughout the weekend.

The Israeli and Lebanese military negotiators meet in the United Nations headquarters at Naqurah again this morning for a further round of talks on the withdrawal of the Israeli army from southern Lebanon.

Jordan to get Soviet missiles this year

Amman (AP) — Jordan will receive sophisticated ground and air defence missiles from the Soviet Union early this year, the Jordanian Army commander in General Sherif Zaid bin Shaker, announced.

He said Jordan also expected to conclude arms deals with Britain and France "in order to back our forces and strengthen military structure".

King Hussein met President Mubarak of Egypt on Saturday when the President made a surprise visit to Jordan's Red Sea port of Aqaba.

Polish prices to rise in March

Warsaw (AP) — The Polish Government announced to cut its 30 per cent inflation rate back to 13 per cent, in seeking to raise food prices without causing riots by asking Poles which of three price-level schemes they prefer.

This year's rises are scheduled for March, but two of its alternative schemes would end rationing for some products.

Golan clash

Tel Aviv — A lone Syrian soldier who crossed the Golan Heights line was shot dead by Israeli troops at the weekend after a 10-hour pursuit. It was the first such encounter on the Heights in more than a year.

Andes toll

La Paz (AP) — A Bolivian mountaineering team reported that it had found no survivors after reaching the wreckage of a US airliner with 29 people on board which crashed into an Andes peak while preparing to land here on New Year's Day.

Train disaster

Capulpan, Mexico (AP) — At least seven people were killed and 182 others injured, some seriously, when several carriages of a southbound train were derailed just south of here, the Red Cross said.

Basque rally

Bilbao (Reuters) — Several people were hurt yesterday when Spanish police charged demonstrators here demanding an amnesty for Basque separatist guerrillas.

Jew jailed

Moscow (Reuters) — A Soviet Jew, Leonid Shraier, has been sentenced to three years' jail at a trial in Chernovits in the Ukraine, for spreading anti-Soviet fabrications.

Ship in trouble

Rabat (Reuters) — A Spanish seaman was killed as he and 23 other people abandoned the 2,493-ton cargo ship *Don Fernando* in heavy seas off Morocco. Shifting cargo had made the ship list sharply.

End of hunt

San Ferdinando (AP) — Italian police have arrested Vincenzo Rositano, hunted for two years, in an underground hideout in this southern village. He faces charges of kidnapping and extortion.

ENTERTAINMENTS			
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Washington and Moscow say talks about talks will create no miracles

From Richard Owen
Geneva

The United States and the Soviet Union go into the absolutely new arms talks opening today both warning that two days of exploratory meetings cannot produce miracles.

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, know that the hopes of the world rest on a re-opening of Soviet-American negotiations after a year and a half of acrimonious estrangement.

But the two men are only empowered to set an agenda for future dialogue. Their "talks about talks" can at least make a start on the complex issues dividing the superpowers. Soviet opposition to the American "Star Wars" space weapons programme properly known as the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), how to achieve a balance in strategic missiles, given that Russia has a preponderance in land-based intercontinental ballistic missiles, whereas America leads in submarine-launched missiles, to define modern weapons according to range "throw weight" and number of independently targeted warheads.

Arms issues have if anything become more complicated since the Russians brought arms control to a standstill in November 1983 by walking out of the previous talks on intermediate range missiles (INF) and strategic missiles (Start) in protest against NATO's deployment of cruise and Pershing 2 to balance Russia's SS20s. After insisting that they

Milestones on the arms talks road

Salt signed 1972, set strategic arms ceilings with launchers, not warheads as basis. Expiry 1977.
ABM Treaty 1972, on anti-ballistic missile systems.
Vienna summit 1974, arms pact signed at Brezhnev-Ford summit.
Salt 2 signed 1979 but not ratified by US Senate because of Afghanistan invasion, but fresh strategic arms ceilings.
Start Successor to Salt talks, opened 1982, abandoned by Russians November 1983, after NATO deployment of cruise and Pershing 2.
INF: Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces. For first separated out shorter range missiles in Europe. Russians walked out November 1983.

would not talk again unless NATO's European missiles were withdrawn - and subsequently, unless Washington stopped space weapons testing - the Russians calmly made a 180 degree turn late last year, using the face-saving formula that the Shultz-Gromyko talks were about "new" negotiations.

Mr Shultz and Mr Gromyko first met in September 1982, and have the measure of each other. Mr Gromyko is the more experienced - there have been nine Secretaries of State during his 38 years as Foreign Minister - and does not have to face departmental rivalries over arms policy, as the able and cautious Mr Shultz does in Washington.

But Moscow has a hidden "guns versus butter" debate of its own, and has been forced back to the negotiating table by the high cost of defence spending, as well as by fear of being militarily outstripped, not least in space.

Mr Gromyko is expected to

demand an immediate ban on space weapon development, and Mr Shultz is expected to turn it down.

Washington sees its "Star Wars" system as defensive, and hopes to make a distinction at Geneva between "defensive" weapons (SDI) and "offensive" weapons (nuclear missiles), both intermediate and strategic. So far the Russians have rejected any such distinction. They will aim to exploit divisions within NATO over space weapons.

A more earthy obstacle is Russia's demand for the withdrawal of cruise and Pershing 2, a demand which has been put on one side rather than abandoned. Mr Gromyko could revive it, especially if he is in the dour mood which has often earned him the sobriquet "Grim Grom".

A further difficulty is whether to include the British and French deterrents, left out of the previous Geneva arms talks. Moscow would prefer to merge the intermediate and strategic talks, but Washington appears determined to keep them separate.

The American concept of "umbrella" talks covering all contentious points could provide a way out, and there are areas of agreement which might provide some symbolic first step - ratification of comprehensive test ban treaties for example.

Mr Reagan has called for patience and flexibility, and President Chernenko presumably hopes for some evidence of a return to détente to take to the Warsaw Pact summit which follows the Shultz-Gromyko encounter.



Cold welcome: A Swiss guard protecting himself against the weather as Mr Shultz flew into Geneva yesterday.

The hidden conflict of Angola

Savimbi's war lays waste the heart of a land of plenty

From James Brooke, New York Times, Huambo, Angola

Nine years ago, Jonas Savimbi made this city the capital of his short-lived Democratic Republic of Angola. Today he is trying to strangle it.

Huambo is the centre of Angola's almost hidden civil war, a conflict that has left countless dead, 20,000 amputees and aggravated malnourishment problems for one third of the people of the once-fertile central highlands.

Dr Savimbi leads the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita), a pro-Western group that is supplied by South Africa and is based in Jamba, 500 miles south-east of here. Opposing him is Angola's Marxist Government, led by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), which is supplied by the Soviet Union and is based in the nation's capital, Luanda, 300 miles north-west of here.

Caught in between is Huambo. Dr Savimbi's republic lasted two months, from November 1975 until January 1976, when

the MPLA, backed by Cuban troops drove Unita guerrillas into the bush. Since then, coverage of Angola's civil war has been largely conducted from the front, at news conferences in Lisbon, or in Luanda or Jamba. The Government recently arranged a visit to Huambo for foreign reporters. They ruled out any unsupervised or spontaneous interviews with townspeople.

But interviews here and in Luanda with health workers, religious leaders, military officials and international aid workers indicate that Dr Savimbi's guerrilla campaign has wrecked the economy of the Central Highlands and is causing enormous hardship for the people of Savimbi's tribe, the Ovimbundu. These sources also assert that Dr Savimbi has little control over units operating hundreds of miles from headquarters and that they often turn to freelance banditry.

The government says it is multi-tribal and multi-racial, but the Ovimbundu, who make up about one third of Angola's

population, are barely represented in Luanda. None of the 11 members of the Politburo are Ovimbundu and only one of the 46 members or the Council of Ministers and three members of the Central Committee are Ovimbundu.

Huambo was one Angola's most densely populated province. A decade ago its fertile plains provided so much grain that Angola was a net exporter of food. Today, flying in a plane over the province, one sees scores of abandoned villages surrounded by the untilled fields. The once-prevalent herds of cattle have long since been stolen or eaten.

Workers for the International Committee of the Red Cross say they hand out 2,000 tons of food a month here.

The Red Cross is feeding 20,000 people in Huambo, one quarter of city's population. M. Pierre Gassmann, the Red Cross chief in Angola, said in an interview in Luanda that 2,000 of the aid recipients were "children who would die in a week".

Zambia haven for many refugees

From Alfred Sayila, Lusaka

Bitter fighting in Angola for the past five weeks between government forces and Unita rebels has resulted in an influx of refugees entering Zambia at the border towns of Illoilo and Chavuma.

The fighting, which is taking place in the Benguela and Luanda provinces has paralysed communications between Luanda, Angola's capital and its eastern towns of Lumbala, Cazombo Kalunda and Kalipande.

Kalipande, 500 miles west of Lusaka and one time a flourishing commercial district for Angolan and Zambian traders has become a desolate place with its diminishing population on the brink of starvation, cut off from essential supplies.

Some of the refugees claim to have seen bloody skirmishes between government forces and those of Unita as the two vie for control of the area.

The government seems to have the upper hand and to

have won the confidence, support and sympathy of the local populace who now resent Unita's infiltration. It has supplied able-bodied men and women in the affected areas with arms and ammunition to use against Unita while its land and air forces patrol and scour the entire region.

Both sides are claiming victory and Unita is said to be flying flags in areas which have fallen under its control.

European notebook

No honeymoon for new Commission

The new European Commission assumes control today and goes on trial almost immediately. It takes over management of a Community without a budget at a time when the EEC needs money as never before.

The new Commission has to use its influence to steer through the last and most difficult negotiations for Spanish and Portuguese entry by the end of March. It must prepare for an agricultural trade war with the United States at a time when the Common Agricultural Policy is working increasingly unsatisfactorily for both farmer and public. Above all, the Commission has to set about winning back support and credibility for the Community lost through years of internal wrangling over relatively small sums in the budget, the soaring cost and size of agricultural surpluses and the apparent failure to halt the growth of unemployment.

As the disenchantment grows the EEC is seen to need more and more money. The Commission knows there will not be enough cash this year to meet all the bills without either changing the rules or a second general whip round among member states. West Germany refuses to change the rules until Spain and Portugal are safely in - impossible until next year - while Britain will

not contribute to a whip round.

It is difficult to see how there can be any price increases at all for farmers during the year, adding to their growing dissatisfaction.

Generally the Community has enough money to tick over into the autumn before any real problems build up. A quick end to the enlargement negotiations could then persuade West Germany to change its stand and end the deadlock.

But that all presupposes that the European Parliament does not seek to force the pace. M. Jacques Delors, the new Commission President, is due to make his policy statement in Strasbourg next week, and MEPs mean to sit in judgement on him from the beginning.

The Parliament is determined to show the Commission from the outset that it must be treated seriously and obeyed.

Some MEPs are already threatening to use their power to sack the Commission before the summer, so the 14 members in M. Delors's team can expect little or no honeymoon period. Honeymoons cost money and there is none available.

Jan Murray

8 die in church shooting

From Donovan Moldrich, Colombo

Eight people were killed in a shooting incident at St. Anne's Church at Yankalari near Mannar, a north-western port, early yesterday. The parish priest, Father Mary Basilia, was reported among those killed but this could not be confirmed in Colombo.

Father Basilia was reported to have heard gunfire at about

1am and gone to investigate. Seeing soldiers, he appealed to them not to shoot but shots rang out and the priest and two students fell dead.

One source said the bodies of eight or nine people who had been shot dead were in a mortuary at Mannar. The priest's body was not in the mortuary however.

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*The average man aged 25 who has a wife and two children, earning £12,000 a year, would need £20,451 of life cover to protect his family. If he has a wife and one child, he would need £10,225. If he has a wife and no children, he would need £5,112.50.

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Then, after this guaranteed period, something very much to your advantage could happen. You carry on paying the same premiums, but

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£10	18	£19,652	£38,490	£259,590
	25	£29,699	£13,271	£40,307
	35	£42,702	£4,573	£8,029
	45	£50,106	£38,902	£397,674
	55	£14,588	£20,329	£51,746
£15	18	£27,203	£7,618	£12,299
	25	£40,557	£79,353	£356,747
	35	£20,017	£27,387	£83,188
	45	£9,704	£10,263	£16,569
	55	£51,010	£59,806	£273,832
£20	18	£28,176	£34,446	£104,625
	25	£12,205	£12,908	£20,840
	35	£40,557	£79,353	£356,747
	45	£20,017	£27,387	£83,188
	55	£9,704	£10,263	£16,569
£25	18	£36,114	£90,530	£487,769
	25	£30,335	£41,505	£126,064
	35	£14,706	£15,563	£25,110
	45	£14,706	£15,563	£25,110
	55	£14,706	£15,563	£25,110

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Occupation

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THE ARTS



Robert MacDermott, BBC announcer and breeder of Siamese cats, and his wife Dianna Morgan, who had their satirical fling with *This World of Ours*

Meet Me at the Gate, a 'retrospective revue' opening tomorrow at the King's Head in Islington, summons up some fascinating ghosts from the theatrical past: J. C. Trewin explains

The birth of the 'fringe' spirit

Meet Me at the Gate is the title of a "retrospective revue" opening tomorrow at the King's Head, Islington. But how many, I wonder, will know why this event in Upper Street is linked with two vanished theatres in Floral Street in Covent Garden and, more particularly, in Villiers Street down below off the Strand.

Between the wars the Gate, at successive locations, brought to central London the spirit of today's "Fringe". Norman Marshall, who held the Gate wide during its last years, preferred to speak of The Other Theatre. This had a special selective responsibility, for various considerable subjects could be treated then only on a nominally private stage.

There has never been a club quite like the Gate, born thanks to the idealism of Peter Godfrey and Molly Veness. I remember them at the weekly change-doll's-house "Rep" in the lawyers' quarter of Plymouth, often in parts wildly far from their ideals.

James Agate praised Toller's *From Morn to Midnight* and - as an afterthought - "the best coffee in London".

Two years later, following a variously described progress (Eisenstein, Gorkis, Wedekind, Cocteau, Hauptmann) that would test any studio now, Godfrey moved in 1927 to what had been a skittle alley by the "arches" in Villiers Street. There he sustained his personal game of intellectual skittles until at last inspiration slackened.

One afternoon during 1934 Norman Marshall, walking up Villiers Street, saw Godfrey disconsolate outside the Gate. They spoke. Would Marshall care to buy the theatre? Marshall would, not surprising for a man who, even if he had directed such a London musical as *A Kiss in Spring*, had appreciated the rigours of the Festival Theatre at Cambridge. Generally modest and reserved, he chose a policy less esoteric than Godfrey's. In October 1934 he began with *Miracle in America*, a play (of which Toller was part author) about Mary Baker Eddy.

The studio theatre at 16a Villiers Street measured 55 feet by 30; its stage, occupying one-third of the floor space, was only 18 inches high, tempting as a front-row footstool. Presently Marshall, who as a director had an uncommon control of rhythm, entered the century's stage record with such plays, then banned from public showing, as Laurence Housman's *Victoria Regina*, the American *Parnell* and Lillian Hellman's *The Children's Hour*.

Norman Marshall abhorred the "social outing" first-nighters. But he could still relax very cheerfully when he wished, although in a very different vein from that

of Godfrey, who liked burlesque melodrama. And so emerged in Marshall's time, some 50 years ago, the Gate's famous annual revues. Titles slip away. But Diana Morgan and her husband, Robert MacDermott, had their satirical fling, long before satire became a vogue word, in *This World of Ours* (1935) with Hermione Gingold and music by Geoffrey Wright. A year later *Your Number's Up* was labelled a "musical play" and it was remembered mainly for a school song that began:

Magna Carta, locum tenens.
Ubiqum delirium tremens...

and the group was back with various mutations of company and authorship - such names as Nicholas Phipps and Ronnie Hill - in *Members Only* (1937) and *The Gate Revue* (1938). Coincidentally, not far off, Herbert Farjeon was a comparable wit at the Little in John Street, with another Hermione (Badeley), in her finest hour.

In 1939 the Gate Revue crossed the Strand and moved up to the West End proper at the Ambassadors, where it ran for 449 performances to the tune of *Transatlantic Lullaby*. A bomb took the roof off in Villiers Street and the theatre never reopened. But the style had been set for a long sequence of West End revues - *Sweet and Low*, *Tuppence Coloured*, *Penny Plain*, among them - which continued until *Beyond the Fringe* in 1961 changed the face of intimate revue. Norman Marshall had his rendezvous with history during those years before the war in Villiers Street. It is that event the King's Head now applauds.

Television
Beyond words

It is unlikely that any play this year will have fewer words than *Sean Connery's* *Conquest*, which began BBC2's series *Screen Two* last night. Those there were tended to be of the four or seven-letter kind without which, one might suppose, the British private would be speechless.

They serve with equal emphasis to express joy, sorrow or frustration. The series, produced by the first, the others were simply conveyed. Mr. Clarke served as a Parachute Regiment captain in *Uster* and wrote a somewhat controversial book on his experiences, fictionalised here in the events of a routine patrol in border country.

Such patrols last for five or ten days, the platoons snatching rest in disguise, observation posts. It is as Mr. Clarke shows it, a brutalizing and occasionally bloody business. A more fulsome script would no doubt have been inappropriate. The troops sustain continual tension, fatigue and the boredom which is an ally of an elusive enemy who makes his presence felt by ambush and body-trap. Alan Clarke's taut, atmospheric direction, with the night scenes surreal in a sinister green, brought the sick tension of it all through strongly. One had the feeling that this was how it must be, a soldier's tale of a thankless task to make us shift uneasily in our seats.

As the platoon commander Sean Connery is quite brilliant. Having nothing but epithets and orders as props, he had to reflect the whole spoiling business in gesture and expression. His "platoon" responded well, an uncomfortable but highly dramatic start to this new series.

The comedy-thriller is a difficult, frequently impossible, genre. One can see how its challenge might appeal to someone of Alan Plater's versatility. From the first instalment (there will be six) of *Yorkshire's* *The Beiderbecke Affair*, it is hard to predict how successful he will be, but the humour showed.

James Bolam is the woodwork teacher who turns sleuth when he feels he has been conned by a door-stepping platinum blonde. He ordered Beiderbecke records and got something else. To appreciate his character, one needs to know that jazz enthusiasm reverence Mr. Beiderbecke not only because he blew a mean cornet but also drank himself to death by the age of 28, thus topping talent with tragedy, always legend-enhancing.

Barbara Flynn plays Mr. Bolam's girlfriend, also a teacher and standing for the council as a conservation candidate. It remains to be seen whether comedy and thrill will balance out, but blowing a la Beiderbecke, Kenny Baker is good value.

Roundheads and Cavaliers are back on BBC1 with another 10-part dollop of John Hawkesworth's *The Sword Divided*, a title which has a sonority not matched by the drama - which is neither comical, thrilling nor compelling.

Dennis Hackett

The Nutcracker
Festival Hall

Trying to compare the two productions of *The Nutcracker* that are playing on opposite sides of the Thames would be rather pointless. The merits in each case are different, the faults so variously severe, that I am put in mind of Dr Johnson's remarks about disputing precedence.

What one can say, however, is that in terms of performance the Royal Ballet wins musically, thanks to Gennadi Rozhdestvensky's involvement (although Graham Bond puts up a strong and effective rearguard action on behalf of Festival Ballet's orchestra), but that on the strength of Saturday afternoon's performance at the Festival Hall the dancing honours must go to Festival Ballet.

That is partly because of the spirited way the company as a whole is dancing under its new leadership, with special credit due to Mireille Bourgeois for her gentle, elegant Snow Queen.

Dance

to a newcomer, Craig Randolph, for his high-jumping solo as Fritz, and to the other featured men for their dash and aplomb.

Chiefly, however, I am struck by how much better suited the leading couple were in technique, style and charm than any of the four casts I have seen in the rival production. I have already enthused about Katherine Healy in other roles on tour; as Louise she confirmed all the qualities of poise and polish that make her already, at 15, a dancer of rare merit.

Her partner was Patrick Armand, who has joined Festival Ballet from Ballet Théâtre Française. Not long out of his teens, he looks young and handsome enough to make a perfect foil for this baby ballerina; but with three or four years of leading roles behind him (including *Songs of a Wayfarer* with Nureyev in London) he also has stagecraft to help bring her on. Beautifully neat, attentive and courteous, he is a splendid dancer and a real find.

John Percival

Concerts

Lively discourses

Beth Spendlove
Wigmore Hall

Elizabeth Maconchy has written so many fine string quartets that we tend to forget she writes other fine things as well. Beth Spendlove's excellent violin recital on Friday included the first London hearing of Maconchy's *Six Miniatures for Solo Violin*: unpretentious but vivid little pieces, making 13 minutes of lively discourse.

There was a touch of the folk fiddle in the skittish prelude, and that recurred both in the pizzicato-dominated "Badinage" and in rather different guise in the hypnotically lilting "Lullaby for Sarah". There was a more powerful eloquence in the central section of the "Meditation"; the almost short casual short phrases of the "Dialogue" melted into a high, sweep consonance; and the brittle hiccupping of "Roundabout" had a pungent, Stravinskian feel.

Beth Spendlove played these miniatures with the same energy and drive which she brought to the rest of her programme: it worked wonders for Lennox Berkeley's attractive pair of 1950 pieces, *Elegy and Toccata*. She has a muscular incisiveness to her bowing arm and a natural rhythmic flair which managed to animate Poulenc's *Violin Sonata* and make it seem a work of real substance. Occasionally a note or a phrase slips out of her control and there is a sour burr or two, but that is a small price to pay for her musical involvement.

The other worthwhile revival in the recital was of a Mendelssohn sonata. The somewhat telegraphic announcement by the pianist, Michael Dussek, implied only that the billed *F minor Sonata Op 4* was actually in *F major*. But what was played was, I guess, a different piece altogether - presumably the *F major Sonata* without opus number which Menuhin published. Mendelssohn dashed that off on June 15, 1838, but it came across here as a strong, very inventive piece, with Mr Dussek a bold if occasionally too dominating partner. Miss Spendlove was perhaps a little too substantial in Szymanowski's atmospheric *La Fontaine d'Irethuse*, though the notes were swept into place with panache, and Kreisler's *Tam-tamurin chinois* set the hall ringing with an incisiveness that may not have been very delicate but was certainly invigorating.

Nicholas Kenyon

LPO/Freeman
Barbican

An orchestra's relationship with a new guest conductor is always an interesting phenomenon to observe. In the case of little between the London Philharmonic and Paul Freeman, music director and conductor of the Victoria Symphony Orchestra, Canada, it was, however, almost invisible.

Throughout the entire concert one had the strange sensation of responding in negative terms, not because either Brahms or Beethoven was given a particularly bad performance, but simply because there was so little of the consistently positive in their interpretation and re-creation.

In Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, for example, the orchestra played well enough for Mr Freeman - at times, indeed, almost as though they were trying to instil fervour at least where form was lacking. For the conductor's sins were merely

those of omission, rarely of commission; and David Nolan, leading, and the cello department in particular, seemed eager to fill in the gaps. But gap-filling is hardly what this symphony is about, and despite the momentum of its raw energy, the performance failed to engage in the vital, truly energizing questions as to why and how it works in the particular ways it does.

In partnership with the highly intelligent pianism of Massimiliano Damerini in Brahms's First Piano Concerto, Mr Freeman seemed even more self-effacing. It was, it is true, a thinking man's Brahms, on a tight, not always a taut, rein. But his thinking can be as awesome great at the same time as it is intimate, and both conductor and pianist seemed to underestimate the work's breadth and stature. Mr Damerini, for instance, could arouse a sagging connexion to life with his first-movement octave passages, but the orchestral release into blitheness came only as skittishness.

Hilary Finch

Michele Campanella
Wigmore Hall

Last year the London debut of the Italian pianist, Michele Campanella, was apparently greeted with considerable enthusiasm by a small audience. His return visit on Saturday happily drew a larger crowd, and their response verged upon the ecstatic. Justifiably so, too, for this was a rather special recital, given by an artist surely destined for great eminence before very long.

It is natural, tempting to make comparisons with Pollini, another pianist who sees his responsibility for illuminating a composer's thoughts as paramount, though Campanella is a much more relaxed performer. Partly for that very reason he was able to show that Clementi's *G minor Sonata, Op 7 No 3*, published in 1782, is at times startlingly forward-looking in its abrupt juxtapositions and formal experimentation rather than being (as Mozart would have it) merely a sequence of mechanically repeated clichés.

Just as many of Beethoven's musical roots are to be found here as in Mozart's own *C minor Sonata, K457*. The Adagio of this dark, disturbed work brought from Campanella a *bel canto* tone of heart-rending beauty. He meant every note, too, as the perfectly weighted appoggiaturas of the finale further suggested. By contrast, Beethoven's rest, carefree *Sonata in E flat, Op 31 No 3*, sparkled mischievously, helped by Campanella's precise but always light semiquaver passage work, and the humour of the off-the-beat accentuation in the Trio section of the Minuet was despatched almost casually, though entirely appropriately.

But then Campanella, master of classical equilibrium, metamorphosed into Campanella, romantic virtuoso, with a reading of Mussorgsky's *Pictures from an Exhibition* that was quite simply stunning. There was immense power as well as beauty of tone in "The Heroes' Gate at Kiev" while the grey stones of "Il vecchio castello" resounded hauntingly to the song from centuries ago. Between such extremes was a bewildering variety of moods and colours; so much, in fact, that one was left wondering why any composer should ever have felt that the work needed orchestrating.

Stephen Pettitt

Opera

Ariadne auf Naxos
Bayerische Staatsoper,
Munich

Munich was almost certainly the right house and the last month of 1984 just about the right time for Margaret Price to sing her first Ariadne. Munich and Richard Strauss have always been closely connected, both in and outside the summer festival, and rarely more so than under their current musical and artistic director, Wolfgang Sawallisch. Inevitably, and correctly, he was in the pit for this new production (by Günter Roth) of *Ariadne auf Naxos*.

It is coming up for twenty years since Margaret Price was first heard in a tiny role at Glyndebourne, and it did not take very long after that for her to be invited back in major ones. But she has been wise in delaying long before tackling Ariadne, a full weight demand on voice in full maturity and too often gets soprano taking it on too early - or for that matter continuing with it far too late. Miss Price's voice soars and expands with Strauss's vocal line effortlessly and without ever sounding overblown. Her stamina has never been in question and this Ariadne can sail away from Naxos at the end of the opera into a star-filled night sounding as fresh as she did during the Vorspiel, where in the role of the Prima Donna she has little to do but look imperious, which has never caused Miss Price much trouble.

"Es gibt ein Reich" was sung with that touch of melancholic self-pity which recalled the best Ariadnes in this theatre: Rysanek, della Cassa. In demagogic and pure volume Margaret Price set her Ariadne above and beyond the *commedia dell'arte* mob around her. And that is as it should be in this highly impressive debut in the role.

Peter Lindroos, the Bacchus, a golden boy from out of the Aegean, quite often with tones of matching colour, was a worthy partner when he eventually arrived at Naxos. It is a beefy, uncomplicated interpretation. But then that is Bacchus. A balanced Ariadne needs a Zerbinietta of quality just as much as a Bacchus if the scales are not to be tipped too far towards *opera seria* and away from the world of *commedia dell'arte*. Munich have two



Margaret Price: highly impressive debut

Zerbinietta - and two Bacchuses for that matter. Edita Gruberova, the best there is at the moment, as Salzburg and other places have heard, was not singing on my night and Rebecca Littig has some way to go before she throws down a challenge to the reigning Zerbinietta. Her presence and her colouratura are both excellent, but a mishap at the end of "Grossmächtige Prinzessin" - but Miss Littig as yet lacks both authority and dazzle. Zerbinietta after all is the star of the troupe, the girl who gets the show on the boards when others have put obstacles in its way.

The *commedia dell'arte* section of the opera is the major weakness of Günter Roth's rather staid and unhumorous production, which compares poorly with that by Dieter Dorn at Salzburg a few summers back. (Dorn, by coincidence, has a staging of Goethe's *Torquato* Tasso opening in another part of Munich simultaneously.) Ulrich Franz's sets were equally traditional: a backstage set for the Vorspiel with a glimpse of a plush auditorium, then a turquoise baroque grotto - more, in fact, grotty baroque - for the opera proper. No sign of the sea or of Bacchus's ship. All a little dull, with the exception of Silvia Strahammer's costumes.

The *commedia dell'arte* was led with not a great deal of finesse or ebullience by John Janssen (Harlekin); this used to be one of Hermann Prey's best roles at Munich. The Vorspiel was much more distinguished with Delores Ziegler showing far better form as the Kompositore, full of promise: she had not yet quite the depth of "Ach ich fühl's" but her cries of "Die Wahrheit" and "Tatmino mein" were perfectly moulded. She blended well, musically and dramatically, with Jonathan Summers's Papageno, a light unaccompanied bird-catcher.

Luciana Serra's Queen of the Night, heard on Davis's new recording of the opera, popped through the coloratura like a highly efficient synthesizer, but was commanding on stage while in smaller roles both David Wilson-Johnson's Speaker and Tamar Rachum's First Lady made firm impressions. Robert Lloyd's Sarastro is a somewhat Puritan mason in this production but is magnificently sung. One disappointment is Gosta Winbergh's Tamino, a beefy, unsuitable prince, whose voice is strong enough but whose sense of rhythm leaves much to be desired.

The Royal Opera must be pleased with their 1979 staging by August Everding in Jürgen Rose's designs, for they have taken it to Tokyo and Los Angeles, not to mention Manchester. But it is a miscellaneous string of extravagant ideas that, though stimulating, does little to unify the piece.

Nicholas Kenyon

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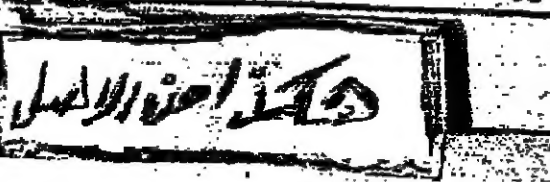


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the result as a French victory, unfortunately, for which he was again sent to prison.

Hee the country for two years, and the satirical attack on Metternich which caused him to flee back to England. When the Crimean War came, famous for

officer once a year incognito accompanied by his eight Libyan bodyguards. He has kindly agreed to let 1985 be a non-stop round of dinners,

“The most damaging effect of all the bickering is that little of the argument seemed to consider . . . care of the sick and elderly.”

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12 Powder (8)
14 Errata (7)
15 Influx (6)
16 Needing action
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La Mielito

Early bird stretches her wings

In a rare interview breakfast television's Selina Scott tells Angela Brooks why she is seeking fresh challenges

Selina Scott strides into the smart Soho restaurant in sensible black shoes, shrugs off her camel coat to reveal a form-fitting designer suit and extends a handsome, if chapped and unmanicured hand in greeting.

Miss Scott, whose *brie* name is the profession of which she is a part, is making her only concession to Fleet Street in more than a year talking about *Breakfast Time*, which celebrates its second anniversary this month.

Currently she is still at the negotiating table and is more than a month overdue in renewing her contract. There is, however, no question, she says, that she will stay for at least six more months - perhaps more if her proviso for a meatier television role over and above her duties on *Breakfast Time* are met.

The chips she is trading on are an adulatory audience who turn to her as a major film series idea she says she has put forward and a less grueling schedule on *Breakfast Time*.

Exhaustion (she calls it the "haze of morning television") has been an incentive in angling for less time on the programme. This 33-year-old comely maiden of modern technology is chafing at the bit from the

have to discipline myself. "It's devilish."

"It's not the programme itself," she says, pushing a non-existent wisp of hair from her forehead. "I enjoy that. It's the build up to it and run down from it each day."

"I've had six hours sleep in the past three days and I'm extremely tired. That's normal for me - I usually catch up with long stretches of sleep over the weekend. There are times when I've just got to break out of the eight o'clock, three o'clock routine. So sometimes I'll go out in the evening and stay up all night, behaving like a child. It's a way of rebelling. I think it's very therapeutic."

If Miss Scott gets what she wants from the BBC, the symbiosis with Frank Bough will be broken. It's not, she's quick to add, that the combination of Bough and Scott has gone stale. It's more that she's spoiling for fresh challenges.

"I feel this year is going to be a transitional one for me," she says, visibly brightening. "I feel I have to do certain things on my own and differently. It won't be a double act with Frank all the time - and he feels exactly the same way."

"The pairing of Frank and me on the programme is almost a cliché. I represent the younger woman, the second wife. I suppose, Frank is the charming, old-fashioned, gallant gentleman."

"He has always been ready to step in if he feels there is any need. At first I was very uneasy about that, but we've come to know and understand one another over these two years."

The tandem performance came unstuck successfully when Selina went to Norway to cover the Nobel Prize awards for American cable television and Bough stayed in London to present the London theatre awards with Angela Ripston.

That experience is one in which Miss Scott takes pride. "I did 44 links without autocue. I presented the entire programme without mistakes," she says, the closest she gets to a snub to critics who have said she goes blank when the autocue goes off.

"I have my own programme ideas in the pipeline, things I want to get involved in - movie ideas, documentaries," she says, leaning across the table to emphasise her point. "I enjoy daily television but it's much more satisfying to see something you've put together as a whole - something you've written and worked on every step of the way."

"I don't think the magic of television is sitting on a sofa in a studio," she says. "It's on the streets, in the country, talking to people and bringing that into people's homes."

"At the moment, I have no time to write. I get to work at four in the morning and have an hour to absorb what we're going to be handling for two and a half hours of live television. I'm not a morning person and find it terribly difficult."

I pick up on all the major stories and what the leaders are saying. Then I go through profiles and strips on guests of the day of which there are usually six. I'm on system overlaid with information.

There have been times, she says, when all the guests blur into one and the nightmare of most live broadcasters is realized - the name of the person she's chatting so blithely to has slipped her mind.

She denies she has been stung by the muddle-headed image she is sometimes tagged with. Nevertheless, she is defensive when she talks about her "performance."

"When I do go completely blank - and I have to say I don't often - more often than not it's



Selina Scott: "I've lost my youthful bounce. In two years I've aged ten. I can't go on with it much longer"

Make-up: Barbara Dale; Hair: Nicky Clarke at John Fennell; Photograph: Chris Anagnostou

because I haven't heard what the person has said or because I'm concerned that the allotted interview time left is used in the best possible way."

There is about her a fierce and touching determination to protect her private life as if by allowing a few details to escape, she will have violated that last, tiny, vestige of herself that isn't exposed in 1.8 million homes each weekday morning.

It manifests itself in an unexpected lack of spontaneity. Seldom did my questions meet with a straight "yes" or "no". For the most part, they were held up to the light, examined for suspect motives and then provided with a careful, sometimes ponderous answer.

"There's an arrogance involved in the way I feel about keeping my private life that way," she says. "It's something I value highly. I don't want to know about anyone else's private life. Why should they want to know about mine?"

"I try hard to live a normal life. I go out to restaurants with friends, to the ballet or for a light dinner and drinks. But people always want to know that little bit extra, that bit that sells papers - like whether or not I wear a suspender belt and what colour it is."

Miss Scott gets into her stride when it comes to the Press. Over the years, she has been hounded mercilessly, her every move - and particularly with whom - dutifully reported back to Fleet Street.

"I'll give you an example of the silliness of the Press and how it can get out of hand," she says. "An article appeared in

Tin about how I was afraid of turning into an old maid and living with a load of cats and dogs."

The following day the dailies had headlines like "Selina fears ending her life" plastered all over. I'd actually said something like that as an off-hand remark to a journalist a few years ago. It was turned around and pinned to all sorts of nonsense. Now it's there in the cuttings. It will no doubt be resurrected again.

"It's all a game," she says, shrugging her slender shoulders as if resigned to it. "I accept it all to a very great degree," she adds, not very convincingly. "I look at my watch. Our one and a half hours are up. I try to bargain for fifteen more minutes for all the questions 'you hate most'. 'Five' she counters briskly.

Men in her life? There is one but she refuses to provide his name, the nature of the relationship or what it's likely outcome will be.

"Babies?" "I don't know what all the fuss is about. It's not that I don't like them, I've never had one and I don't know much about them. I can't say yes. I would love to have one or no, it's not for me."

"Some women feel that time's running out when they're 27 or 30 years old. I think I've got loads of time for that. There are many women who have babies in their forties."

Does she ever hanker for conjugal bliss? She won't rule it out, she says. And with a glint in her eye, "I think it was Stevenson who said, 'It's better to travel hopefully than to arrive.'"

The plane man's guide to aerobics

Ever since pilots discovered a name for it, doctors have been seeking a cure for jet lag, that twilight zone of mental drift and physical exhaustion which affects millions of travellers every year.

The alchemy being used to refresh tired bodies ranges from diet to catnaps and, most recently, airborne exercises.

President Reagan attempted to beat jet lag by feasting, fasting and sleeping on his visit to China. The cat-sleep regime was prescribed by Dr Charles Ehret of the Argonne National Laboratory.

On fast days, Mr Reagan was ordered to gorge himself on high-protein foods such as steak, salmon, beans, cheese and ploviers' eggs. The object was to stimulate adrenalin



production for sustained high energy. Feasts also included pounds of pasta or potatoes and ended with sticky sweets - carbohydrates to increase the flow of serotonin, a sleep-inducing chemical.

On fast days, it was more or less a bread and water regime designed to lower the energy

reserves of the body and help it reset its internal clock.

But, despite all this, Mr Reagan still nodded off at banquets. So now World Airways in company with physical fitness enthusiasts at the Capitol Hill Hospital, Washington, claim to have found a better solution - a programme of in-air isometric exercises.

Passengers on all eight World Airways' daily transatlantic flights to London are being invited to plug in to "fitness in flight", a taped programme of seated exercises and mood music designed to combat the stress and strain of long-distance travel.

Once plugged in, passengers are greeted by a man's caring voice: "Sit up straight in your seat now and place both feet flat

on the floor. That's right. Now, press your head firmly into the seat and hold for a count of five. Presses - one, two, three, four, five and relaxes. Remember not to overdo it."

This continues through a series of exercises for the head, neck, chest, upper arms and abdomen.

Passengers are given two sets of exercises done to sprightly music, and then it's on to more heavy breathing.

The soothing voice then tells you to sleep for short periods not long ones, drink three pints of water a day, avoid alcohol, eat light meals and finally, repeat the entire exercise programme every two hours.

Clearly, the time has come to order a stiff drink.

Bailey Morris

PENNY PERRICK

A sweet and sour lesson about life

Do you know a story called The Vinegar Bottle Lady? Probably not, as it doesn't seem to have passed from the Oral Tradition into one of those big fat anthologies called Your Favourite Fairy Tales.

I am pretty familiar with it because it was one of the few things that my great-grandfather, Joseph Bluston, brought out of Russia with him when he made a rather hasty exit and came to live happily ever after in the East End of London. He passed it on to his youngest daughter, my great-aunt Kitty, who used to tell it to me, especially when I was being irritatingly peevish (which was rather a lot of the time).

Briefly, the story is this: There was an old lady who lived, most uncomfortably, in a vinegar bottle and wished most fervently for a bed. She is granted the bed and then demands a room. She wishes in turn for a cottage, a house, a mansion, a castle and a palace and all these wishes come true. Finally, she finds fault with her beautiful palace and complains: "For all the happiness I have found, I might as well be back in the vinegar bottle!" And, before you can say, Igor's your uncle, that's just where she ends up.

I was reminded of the Vinegar Bottle Lady and her fate when I heard what Herbert Zerof, the director of the Dilworth Family Therapy and Psychiatric Group in North Carolina, had to say recently: that the women's liberation movement is leaving a trail of lonely, unhappy women who "After years of devoting themselves to their jobs... suddenly find they want more out of life..." The problem is when they go looking for a mate they have become such perfectionists at work, that they want the perfect man, only to find he doesn't exist.

No doubt, when these wistful women meet a perfectly nice young man they turn him down as being completely out of hand because he wears the wrong kind of running shoes or does not like foreign films.

I wonder what this perfect man that Mr Zerof says they are looking for is actually like. I suppose the ideal would be someone so highly-charged and ambitious that he's probably going to be made the chief executive of a multinational company by the age of 32. At the same time, he has a way with a Cole Porter lyric that's reminiscent of the young Sinatra, is always home by 6 p.m. in order to put the children to bed, and bakes his own rye bread.

Mr Zerof is being a bit arbitrary in declaring that he doesn't exist. I'm sure he does, and I'm equally sure that he is already married - such a paragon would hardly be hanging about on the loose. This might not deter true-blue Vinegar Bottle Ladies, of course. They would just lurk petulantly about on the sidelines, wishing that things were otherwise.

And the dangers that befall you when you desire more than you can reasonably expect to have was the whole point of my great-grandfather's fairy story. Let us hope that these modern VBLs don't wish themselves straight back into a pre-women's liberation vinegar bottle, in the form of a boring dead-end job and marriage in a man who considers that anything that doesn't carry a salary - housekeeping, child-rearing, cooking - is strictly woman's work.

Being a culinary minimalist, I eat out whenever possible, give ardent thanks to the blessed St Michael for bestowing upon me the abundance of his ready-prepared dishes and hope one day to emulate a friend of mine who keeps nothing in her fridge except an eye-refreshing mask.

I read cookery books with the same sense of wonderment as other people read science fiction. Can it really be true that proper cooks peel, boil and sieve chestnuts and grapple with things called larding needles and wire whisks?

Recently, I came across a most extraordinary recipe which called for "eggs, preferably from hens that you know." Nothing so fanciful could ever be part of an Earl's Court cook's repertoire, for, hereabouts, it is perfectly obvious that our eggs were born and raised in pale blue polystyrene caravans.

TOMORROW



How Irene Worth is putting Issey Miyake's designs on the stage

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THE TIMES DIARY

Going out fighting

In response to the threatened abolition of his post as life patron of the Federation of Conservative Students, Edward Heath has not only refused to resign quietly but has denounced everything the federation stands for. Replying to the easy option offered last month, Heath has now written to PCS chairman Marc Glendenning: "I was somewhat surprised to read a report (of the request) in *The Times* (PMS, Dec 3) before it reached me". He then goes on to praise the Conservative Party's policies. "What we (now) face is a market failure... I am surprised that a number of your generation have failed to grasp the challenge that confronts us... I am saddened that you are prepared to acquiesce in the fatalism of the inevitability of unemployment. I am afraid that you commit a gross calumny when you try to equate your own policies to traditional conservatism. To me they seem indistinguishable from the 19th century liberal tradition of unfettered laissez-faire and extreme libertarianism. What distinguishes man from animal is his desire and his ability to control and shape his environment. As to a new consensus, if you perceive one post it on to me!" The doomed life patron should get the "consensus" any day now; a poster of Mrs T and both her election manifestos.

What are they serving in the canteen these days? Chemist Ray Shaw asked if a local army barracks could contribute to the 4,000 litres of fresh male urine he needs daily to produce an anti-thrombosis drug at a new factory in Chippenham. Command HQ at Aldershot has said no on security grounds.

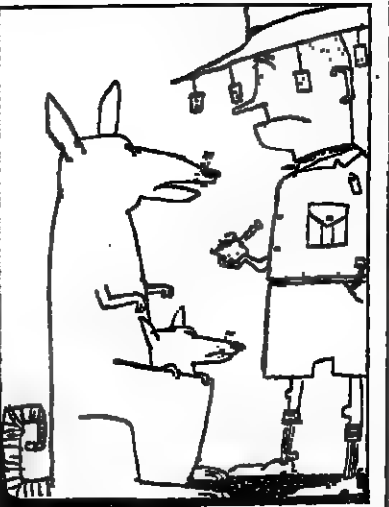
New leaf

Continued speculation about whether 63-year-old Lord Weidenfeld plans to sell off his publishing house has finally taken its toll. Michael O'Mara, his dynamic American deputy chairman, is to quit next month after only 15 months to set up his own publishing business. Sources tell me that O'Mara, formerly the managing director of Rainbird publishers, is also disenchanted with the way the business is run. He is said to find it cumbersome and wasteful, while the cash from the profit-sharing arrangement which helped lure him there has disappointed him. I wonder which Weidenfeld authors he will take with him.

Few about

The apocryphal *Times* headline "Small Earthquake in Chile: Not Many Hurt" appears to have a challenger. Last week's *Dudot Herald* carried the startling front-page headline "A Quiet Christmas" above a riveting story beginning: "Christmas appears to have passed quietly in South Oxfordshire, with no reports of serious accidents and no extremes of weather". Still on headlines, the *Gloucester Evening Times* probably thought it had got away with the blunder of 1984. It read: "Mrs Thatcher leaves for Gandhi Funeral: Security Guards Told to Shoot on Sight".

BARRY FANTONI



"You call it a pouch; Baby Roo calls it a fall-out shelter"

Down and up

Watership Down author Richard Adams rings to tell me he has been cleared of the "Colonel Blimp racist" label pinned on him by *Private Eye*; he has just been asked by the GLC's ethnic minorities unit to judge a £14,000 literary contest for black writers. "It is one in the eye for my enemies," says Adams, who has been accused of referring to "niggers" and "yellow bastards." "I've only used the word 'nigger' when quoting anti-apartheid campaigner Trevor Huddleston. As for 'yellow bastards', I may have called the Japs that during the war." Adams is so pleased with his invitation that he is lunching the contest's adviser, Prabhu Gupta, at the Savile Club next week. Doubtless Adams will explain why his new poetry anthology will feature verse by Enoch Powell.

Footnote

Spelling has never been a strong point with the authors of Belfast's seaborne political and paramilitary graffiti, but their work is leavened by native wit. Seen in Belfast yesterday was a bus newly emblazoned on the back with "Joe Bennett sold his soul for £50,000" - a reference to the Ulster Volunteer Force supergrass discredited on Christmas Eve with the acquittal on appeal of 14 people convicted on his evidence. Underneath, in a more educated hand, was appended, "How much were his shoes?"

PHS

No Entebbe but still a triumph

By Tudor Parfitt

It is a commonplace that Israel is viewed as sinner or saint but rarely as a "normal" Middle East state. For the last few days Israel has basked in the approval of most of the world for its recent exploits supposedly in the tradition of the Entebbe raid and the attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor.

As one admiring editorial put it, Israeli foreign policy is made "on the hoof". The *Daily Express* captured the spirit of most reports with "Israel has snatched 20,000 starving and persecuted Jews from Ethiopia in a brilliant airlift." All this suggests a daring, illegal, courageous but perhaps irresponsible initiative taken by a powerful state always ready to help its own no matter what the cost (estimated by one paper at \$60 billion, a sum sufficient to provide each Falasha, man, woman and child, with about \$2m apiece).

Now the pendulum begins to swing and there have already been suggestions that whatever money was spent was ill spent, that Israel's action was somehow selfish and that the money would have been more properly used for famine relief within Ethiopia itself. So perhaps within a day or so Israel will be again suffering the chill wind of international disapproval.

None the less, even if the remaining

Falashas are left to rot in refugee camps in the Sudan, Israeli politicians have scored a remarkable international coup which will redound to their political benefit long after the criticism has subsided.

Far from the Israelis playing an important physical role within the Sudan or Ethiopia, the six to seven thousand Falashas who have already left flew from Khartoum in a more of less legal and orderly fashion through the intermediary of a number of international aid organizations working in the Sudan.

The Israeli government, and particularly the Jewish Agency, played an important coordinating role but Israel's main contribution, an entirely laudable one, was its willingness to take Ethiopia's black Jews.

But the coordination lacked the precision of an Entebbe operation. Probably 20 per cent of the Falashas who left Gondar last spring died before the summer was out. At one of the larger camps there was no proper water supply and minimal medical attention. In June and July they were dying in one camp at a rate of 15 a day.

We can rejoice that many of the Falashas have gone to Israel. These are the most

fortunate Ethiopians of all. But it was high time something was done. The last organized attempt to bring them out in any numbers founded in 1974 as a result of a supposedly unintentional gaffe by Moshe Dayan. Operation Moses looks in danger of going the same way partly because of another gaffe by a Jewish Agency official, Yehudah Dominitz, who, at least before 1975, had been opposed to Falasha immigration to Israel ("Take a Falasha out of his village, it's like taking a fish out of water...").

It is to be hoped that despite what has happened the thousands of Falashas still in Sudanese refugee camps will be enabled to leave for Israel. They have no future in Sudan. Secrecy was maintained almost long enough but it has not been an episode of "brilliant" derring do. Mistakes have been made but it is clear that in Israel there is immense goodwill at many levels. To oversensationalize Israel's role in the exodus of this suffering tribe can only put off the day when Africa's black Jews are where they want to be - in Zion.

The author, a lecturer at the School of Oriental and African Studies, witnessed Operation Moses on behalf of the Minority Rights Group.

John Barry, 1983 specialist writer of the year for his reports in *The Times* of the last US-Soviet arms talks, gives the inside story on today's Shultz-Gromyko meeting



Can missile mouse outwit the Star Wars cat?

which did not contain provisions for verification - anti-cheating measures far more stringent and intrusive than anything the Soviets have ever accepted before.

It is true that Reagan's team has been preparing for today's meeting - and for the negotiations - in a far more orderly fashion than it drew up its opening bids for the 1981 talks. It is true, too, that the outcome of these intense - and intensely secret - negotiations is a range of negotiating options and packages designed to respond to whatever the Soviets offer.

It is also true, however, that the Reagan administration has - with the exception of one or two dissidents - accepted the notion that arms control is a political necessity. Internationally, because America's European allies demand at least the semblance of progress. Domestically, because the best way of persuading a reluctant Congress to fund the weapons the administration believes necessary is either to tell the legislators that the weapons are vital as bargaining chips in arms talks, or to demonstrate that disarmament has been tried in vain.

What this has meant in practice is that the arms control debate in Washington for the past seven months - ever since Chernenko proposed talks on space weapons last June - has been more complex and more interesting than has so far been reported. The European press in particular has tended to portray the debate in simple terms of good guys v bad guys: The "good guys" being Shultz and his subordinates in the State Department while the "bad guys" are in the Pentagon, notably Defense Secretary Weinberger and the assistant secretary for International Security Policy, Richard Perle.

The reality, very roughly, is that the State Department, largely George Shultz in person - took the lead in persuading President Reagan to ease the Soviet path back to the negotiating table. That was stage one. And it is true that in the Pentagon Richard Perle has said publicly that he thinks that was a mistake for which the West is already paying a price.

At this point, stage two in the Washington debate these past seven months is crucial. The State Department ran stage one. But in stage two - the working out of America's bargaining position at these talks - the evidence is that the Defense Department's views have largely prevailed. The US team in Geneva, in other words, with a set of very tough proposals.

Take the debate on anti-satellite weapons. Between 1968 and 1982 the Russians carried out 20 tests of such missiles, with the result that they have for years had a crude but workable anti-satellite weapon. Not

until January 21 last year did the US respond by testing its own system: a small, highly sophisticated missile launched from a high-flying F-15 aircraft. It will be vastly more effective than the Soviet system. Not surprisingly, Moscow is now against anti-satellite weapons - and especially against any further tests of the American missile. One of the Soviet demands at Geneva will be for a moratorium on all tests of anti-satellite systems while their total ban is negotiated.

Washington is not, by a large, averse to restraints on anti-satellite weapons though the US navy, which fears Soviet ocean surveillance satellites, is keen to have them. The question at issue has been whether the US can agree to restraints on that technology without in the process inhibiting its far more ambitious search for anti-missile defences - President Reagan's "Strategic Defence Initiative".

Wanted: a 'cover story' to help US image abroad

The State Department said yes. The Defence Department gave a straightforward technical opinion: no. Washington is willing eventually to offer some temporary delay in the testing of anti-satellite weapons but will agree to no permanent limits except as part of an overall deal on defensive systems - and for that the Russians will have to pay a very high price.

The fundamental difference between State and Defence, however, has been over the extent to which Washington should be content with some wholly cosmetic arms control agreement such as Salt-1 and Salt-2. Both of which are now dismissed as mere "registrations of fact" imposing no real controls at all, let alone an element of arms reduction. President Reagan is as committed as ever to the notion of reductions. But is Moscow?

Some analysts, principally at State, do believe that there is a chance the Soviets are now sufficiently worried by the prospect of American technological advances that they might, at last, agree to real cuts. But State has been arguing, even if they will not in the end agree to deep cuts, a cosmetic arms control agreement roughly along the lines of Salt-2 would be better than nothing. Even a cosmetic agreement would provide "the arms control cover story" - a phrase much heard in Washington - that State considers internationally necessary for the Reagan administration's programmes. The opponents of this case have been the officials at Defence who question its risks as

well as its cynicism. As Defence sees it, the outcome of the "cosmetic" Salt-1 and Salt-2 was to constrain American nuclear programmes while somehow allowing the Soviets to march ahead with their missile forces' five-year plan.

The strongest argument against a "cosmetic" agreement, however, is also the simplest: it would be incompatible with what the Soviets have said they want from these talks. Moscow wants to put limits not just on offensive missiles but also on defensive systems - anti-satellite and anti-missile weapons. Indeed, Moscow's initial proposal last summer was that the talks should concern only space-based defensive systems. Faced with Washington's adamant refusal, it has now had to agree to broader bargaining.

But the Soviet leadership has continued to insist, publicly and in its private contacts with Washington, that it wants above all to restrain President Reagan's vaulting plans for Star Wars defences.

But one reason the Reagan administration is so keen on the idea of anti-missile defences is that it has all but despaired of persuading the Soviets to reduce by negotiation those heavy missiles whose warheads Washington finds most threatening to America's silos.

In theory, of course, trading Star Wars for missiles ought to be possible. The reason for the pessimism among those who prepared Washington's negotiating package is that few believe the Soviets will in fact bring themselves to offer such cuts.

Not once in past arms talks have the Soviets been willing to trade real weapons of their own for paper projects in the West. That was one reason why the Euro-missile talks collapsed: the Soviets saw no reason to swap real SS-20s for unreal Pershing and Cruise missiles.

So what hope does that leave at Geneva? On that question has been focused the most sensitive and secret of all Washington's preparations for these talks. What if the Soviets offer some reductions in missile numbers, but not enough to warrant American abandonment of the whole idea of anti-missile defences?

The answer the Reagan administration is toying with is a deal by which, in exchange for some reduction in offensive missile numbers, both sides are allowed some anti-missile defences. The defences Washington has in mind would not be in space: they would be ABM batteries on earth, deployed to protect the missile fields of both superpowers.

In other words, the Reagan administration is bracing itself to think about renegotiating the 1972 ABM treaty, and Warsaw Pact diplomats have dropped public hints in Washington that Moscow might be prepared to contemplate this too.

The political price would be high. Standing as one of the few enduring monuments of the years of détente, the ABM treaty has acquired a talismanic status out of all proportion to its original rationale. Any attempt to rewrite it would provoke international uproar - which is why the idea is being held so secretly in Washington, and why the current thinking is to attempt it only in collaboration with the Soviet Union.

The terms of the ABM treaty allow its revision in October 1987. The superpowers have got just under three years to come up with an alternative. The odds do not look good.

Anne Sofer

A carrot for the teacher

Teachers. What comes into your mind at the sound of the word? The furious ranters of *The Beano*, complete with cane and mortarboard? The unkempt duff-coated banger-waver? Mr Chips? Jane Eyre's Miss Temple? Or the nice, quiet, earnest girl down the road who joins all the local societies and goes fell-walking?

Teachers themselves have an occupational fear of being identified. If somebody, at a party, asks "Are you a teacher?" they think it means they have been boring, or dogmatic or over-serious. But they do tend to take themselves, and the world, seriously. They are the compulsive volunteers, the mainstay of all the political parties, the salt of the earth. Since they are going through a bad time at the moment, it is right to quote the response of a London teenager to the question I posed at the beginning of this article. After a moment's reflection he said: "Some of the nicest adults I know."

It is hard to square this view with a very different image emerging from the whispered fears of heads and senior managers of the education service as they look into the New Year and the probability of renewed industrial action: visions of cancelled school functions, picketed schools and angry parents; of heated confrontations with union officials and refusal of teachers to cover for absent colleagues. Most of these people strongly support the teachers' pay claim, but they find the new-style militancy hard to stomach. How can a so-called dedicated profession (is the implied reproach) treat children this way?

The truth is that, with part of their minds, most teachers feel the same way - and that paradoxically makes them even angrier. A survey last autumn in *The Times Educational Supplement* started the depths of the teachers' low morale. They are indignant that their pay has slipped so far behind other workers: the favourite example to enrage them all is the young policeman who only two or three years after leaving school with modest attainments is earning more than they are. But even more than the issue of pay, they feel keenly the present government's low evaluation of the whole service: crumbling, undecorated school buildings; lattered-out-of-date textbooks; cancelled in-service courses. They want the industrial action to be interpreted as a *cri de coeur* - like a normally good, hard-working child letting his teacher know that something is wrong by behaving atrociously. There is something a little naive in expecting the public to see it that way - but then a touch of unworshipfulness is also part of the teachers' psychology.

It is dangerous for relations between an important public service and society as a whole to start on a downward spiral of this sort. In the forthcoming battle the teachers seem likely to get the worst of it. Public sympathy, which might be forthcoming on the issue of their very justifiable pay claim, could well evaporate in the face of their

intransigence - or apparent intransigence - on the other two issues: conditions of service and assessment.

On the first, teachers are caught in the trap of their long-standing refusal, entrenched in the existing Burnham negotiating machinery, to consider salaries and conditions of service together. The fact that so much of what teachers do during the course of the week - break time supervision, clubs, parents' evenings, even (they now claim) the setting and marking of homework - is not part of their contractual obligation means that the "with-drawal of goodwill" is a mighty weapon of industrial action. Its use, however, has alienated from them much of their natural support.

On assessment the public reaction is likely to be even stronger. To non-teachers their resistance to assessment is a scheme - (common enough in other professions) seems absurd. But it must be recognized that teaching is, of all professions, the least supported and supervised, and what is needed above all is not so much merely a scheme for "vetting and sacking" (which is how Sir Keith's proposals have appeared in the popular press) as a comprehensive scheme for professional development and improvement. What architect or barrister or surgeon would expect to get on in his or her career without the regular opportunity to observe colleagues and in turn be subject to their scrutiny and criticism? The circumstances of teaching have encouraged instead a defensive isolation, and the employers are to be blamed for years of inaction over adequate in-service training.

The present impasse is the sort of crisis in which political parties have no right to remain silent. The SDP, at its council at the end of January, will be considering a set of proposals and is bound to offend some sectional interests - but which is directly addressed to the deep-seated and anxious desire of the people of this country to have an effective education system. We propose that a comparability system should be set up in place of the existing negotiating machinery which would regularly relate teachers' pay to private sector and other public sector salaries; that in return for this "no industrial action" agreement should be sought: that a new contract should spell out teachers' curricular and extra-curricular duties; and that the provision of, and participation in, regular in-service training should be an obligation on employers and teachers.

We would hope teachers would respond to the financial and professional attractiveness of this package, and that the public would also see the cost as well worth the return. More than the issue of money, what is desperately needed is a new climate and relationship. The country needs good teachers, and good teachers need the high regard of the community. We run the risk of having neither.

The author is SDP member of the GLC/ALEA for St Pancras North.

John O'Sullivan

When the law fails the gun speaks

New York

The incident reads like a film script. Four young black men surrounded a physically unimpressive white man on a subway. Did he have the time? He did. A match? Five dollars?

At that point Clint Eastwood in the Dirty Harry films would have met the implied threat with a steely "Make my day". The man's actual words were: "I have five dollars for each of you". Whereupon he shot and wounded the four young men, paralysing one from the waist down, helped a distressed woman back into her seat, told the guard that the four had tried to "rip me off" and vanished into the tunnel.

The man, Bernhard Goetz, an electronics engineer, is now in prison awaiting trial, and is one of the most popular men in New York. Collections to raise his \$50,000 bail are made on the subway. Letters to newspapers and callers on radio talk-in programmes endorse his action. And a Bernhard Goetz Legal Defence Fund has been established. When Mayor Koch criticized the concept of vigilante justice, the cynical response of New Yorkers was that he was afraid that Goetz would run for mayor.

It would be a mistake to assume that this public support is confined to conservative blue collar-workers. Liberals, Hispanics, university professors and refugees from the Carter administration were among those who expressed their delight in Goetz's action to me in the last few days.

Behind this rejoicing lies deep public frustration with two New York institutions: the subway system and the law. The subway is dirty, vandalised, decorated with graffiti and dangerous. The Metropolitan Transit Authority points out that there are only 38 reported felonies compared with hundreds of thousands of journeys each day. What this reassurance omits is that the thugs who swagger up and down the trains rob only one or two people but harass others and frighten those who witness the scene.

And not just witnesses. The subway is part of every New Yorker's mental neighbourhood. A purse-snatching in Staten Island is merely a sad statistic to people in Brooklyn, but subway muggings seem close to every traveller. It is a little like having 38 reported felonies each day in one street.

It is, of course, generally accepted that the four young men were muggers. If so, their technique of careful escalation is perhaps signifi-

cant. A simple enquiry about the time of day, followed by a request for a match followed, in turn, by a request for five dollars. Any threat was in the tone of voice, any menace was conveyed by their physically fencing Goetz off from other passengers.

This was, in short, a mugging along lines laid down by lawyers. It had an acquittal built into its ambiguous procedure. A jury might perhaps have found them guilty, but their appeal would certainly have released them. Of course, no lawyer gave this advice. But after years of involvement with the American legal system, the mugging classes have by now acquired a sort of street legalism.

It is criminals' exploitation of the law which leaves the ordinary law-abiding citizen so downcast. There is general dissatisfaction with what is called "the turntable justice system" in which criminals are arrested, released on bail, commit other crimes in the interval before they come to trial, and are often then released on technicalities.

Revenge is a kind of wild justice," said Bacon. And since the public no longer feels confident that the law will provide justice, it is tempted to exact revenge for its daily fear and humiliation in this case, vicariously. They see Goetz as their representative and the four men he shot as representatives of the entire class that terrifies them. It was, so to speak, a class action case of vigilante justice.

But the public is not quite so tough-minded as to judge it in those harsh terms. People are anxious that the shooting should be justified on more conventional grounds. So they emphasize that Goetz was physically threatened and thus entitled to defend himself. And until Goetz's identity became known when he surrendered to the police, it was quite common to hear people express the hope that he would turn out to be a decent, law-abiding citizen, and not a Ku Klux Klan sympathizer or a racist nut out of shooting to be well, tarnished by racism.

There are a few exceptions to the general mood but it is widely assumed that anyone who loyally disapproves, such as Governor Mario Cuomo or Mayor Koch, does not travel by subway. One would not be surprised to see that old Sixties insult "limousine liberal" come back into vogue.

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NEW PHASE AT THE FACE

Today the coal strike enters a new phase almost exactly ten months after its start.

From the beginning of November until the Christmas break, 17,000 miners returned to work making 23,000 in all since March. The total number of working members of the National Union of Mineworkers is now 69,000, out of a National Coal Board estimated total of 175,000 allowing for normal wastage. In other words, with another 16,000 to 20,000 miners returning to work, an effective majority would have voted with its feet to end the strike.

It is said in NCB quarters that a surge is not administratively desirable in the way it was in November, though such figures would be very desirable over a period of two months. First of all the real surge then substantially completed the take-up of slack in working areas of Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire, North Wales, Lancashire and the West Midlands, whose underground facilities had been working for some time and were thus ready to absorb a large new influx.

The bulk of the existing number of strikers now live in areas of greater militancy. Each decision to return is that much harder to take in the face of militancy, intimidation, violence and alleged murder. The NCB thinks it will take longer, as can be seen with Nacods members who anyway have to go in first to prepare the underground faces before coal can be produced. There will always be a time lag between returning to work at the pithead and getting underground.

However we must remember that last August many working miners were having to return by lying on the floor of vans or armoured vehicles whereas in many of the same areas now they are able to walk to work unprotected. Thus the NCB's view is that there is no alternative but to carry on with this policy working away quietly at building up the courage of those many miners known to be desperate to return to work were it not for the violent consequences of so doing. Their desperation has to be weighed against the support received by the NUM in forms of food parcels, which though keeping them at a comfortable level of subsistence, do not maintain the standard of life to which all miners were accustomed before the strike.

Strikers have received millions of pounds from local authorities taking ratepayers' money, from the British taxpayer at large spending tens of millions on supplementary allowances from individual trade unions, now presumably in suitcases in view of civil court proceedings, not to mention the very large sums, probably exceeding millions, from the Soviet bloc, and for all we know in spite of official disclaimers, from the Libyan authorities as well. For

many miners that will chime in with their conviction that such suffering must be endured in pursuit of the certain victory which Mr Scargill still, even yesterday on television, is promising them.

What other pressures are working on each side now during this final phase of attrition? Given the confidence of ministers that as Mr Walker has said, there will be no power cuts in 1983, the pressures on the Government all seem to be not to condone a shabby settlement which would vitiate the three billion pound cost of meeting the dispute so far. The police force in its entirety would be undermined, having been exposed to such controversial operations which suddenly did not seem so important after all. The principle of allowing violence to win where argument loses would subvert the whole climate of political discourse. One can see only too clearly already how sanitised society has become - and in particular politicians - to this phenomenon. A settlement would then go on to betray the working miners. It would condemn them to the obloquy of their union partners, whose so-called "victory" would doubtless be accompanied by old-fashioned Marxist magnanimity. Moreover it would destroy the one real chance that the miners themselves can restore health and democracy to their union through civil action in the courts. That would be a terrible betrayal and could ultimately lead to a more damaging crisis of morale, not just in the Government, but throughout the country, than the fiscal effects of spending so much money fighting a strike movement which was then allowed to get away with it.

Those actions take time. But they are likely to have more effect on the outcome of the struggle than any of the tactics employed by the NUM with the TUC, or the NCB with the Government. The courts have declared that the actions of Mr Scargill and his National Executive are unlawful unless and until he argues the point. He has treated that with contempt and his punishment for the contempt has been made even more appropriate now that he has shown a desire to use the courts on another issue, as though he and his NEC can pick and choose which court, which judges and which decisions they are prepared to respect.

The civil actions by members are of wider importance. The NCB has avoided use of the courts under the new labour legislation passed by this Government. However it has given moral support to working miners to use the common law to protect their rights by challenging the trade union leadership to respect the common law property rights of an individual in its widest sense. The union, whose recognition of these obligations to its members as

individuals has been long absent (an absence indeed from the morality of most trade union leadership which has inflicted untold damage on British labour relations and the performance of British industry) is now faced with a challenge which it didn't expect and cannot claim to be combating "Tory law". No private employer could afford to sit back while its workers invoked their individual rights and the NCB can only do so if the Government and the taxpayer is prepared to hold the line elsewhere.

In that context, Mr Scargill had little to offer on television yesterday to demonstrate that he is likely to recover the initiative for the strikers. Until the trade union movement and the Labour Party recognise that Mrs. Thatcher has forbidden Mr. MacGregor to continue negotiating, and responds accordingly by mobilising physical support for the miners, the strike will not achieve the victory which would be in its grasp, he said. To that, on another programme, Mr. Moses the North Derbyshire director replied that the NCB could not accommodate Mr. Scargill's uncompromising demand that every ton had to be mined from every pit, irrespective of cost.

Mr MacGregor also on television yesterday, said that the original plans were based on the assumption that the business would come through the strike largely unscathed, but that if accident, negligence or failure to look after coal faces had seriously damaged the industry, the NCB could be forced to revise its attitude to compulsory redundancy, further pit closures and so on. Seventy working faces have serious problems of which twenty may be irrecoverable.

Beyond that, of course, there is the question of the Coal Board's potential to apply active pressure on the residue of the strike force if an insufficient number of workers returned by the anniversary to give Mr MacGregor what he would describe as a "working" majority, which he feels he needs to proceed on the assumption that the strike is effectively over and that he must now deal with representatives of the real work force rather than a so-called "government in exile" maintained by outside bodies and perhaps by then with its authority repudiated by the courts of England.

That means that the total number to return by the first week in March is a more important figure than those of today, tomorrow or even this week. However, this week's trend could suggest whether the NCB would have to take active measures some time before March in order to encourage more strikers to return. That is the hard side of the Coal Board policy which will not as yet be emphasised but which the Government must support.

A CHILD OF THE COURT

Barnet council is right to have imposed a pause for thought in the case of the baby born as a result of a surrogacy arrangement. The case is the first in Britain to occur with public knowledge, and through an agency, and several similar arrangements are likely to be in the offing. If there had been no public intervention, the numbers might have risen sharply at once, although there are widespread misgivings about the practice. The law is not without resources. In this situation, and it is right to see how it copes, and to decide in the light of that what further legislation may be necessary. For this is the kind of area where hasty legislation can be particularly cruel and unpredictable in its effects.

If, as is reported, the mother bore the child after artificial insemination from the husband in the couple who want to bring it up as theirs, the case is only novel in its technological and contractual trappings. A more problematical situation would be one where, as is technically possible, the child belonged genetically wholly to the receiving couple and not to the mother at all: here the law needs to spell out clearly the priority of the tie of birth. But this case is in effect simply that of the illegitimate child whose natural father wishes to take it over. Childless couples have no doubt resorted to such expedients ever since the family became an institution. Where

the motive is goodwill, there may be no harm in it. But the idea of a financial transaction determining the destiny of an infant is a repugnant one.

The law rightly puts the interests of the child first, and would almost certainly disregard any contracts made in advance if the mother changed her mind and wanted to keep it. If she is ready to part with it, the situation is closely analogous to that of payment for transfer of custody of a child with a view to adoption, which is a criminal offence. This precedent gives the council ample justification for intervening.

Its decision may not be an easy one, however. The couple seeking possession may on investigation prove eminently suitable parents, for whom failure to have a child of their own is a profound grief. They undeniably have a special tie with the child, one-sided as it is. It would be hard to dash all their hopes at the last moment, simply with the general aim of discouraging the spread of commercial surrogacy. Yet if they are granted custody, the effect must be to encourage others, whose yearning may be just as great, to take the risk of entering unenforceable contracts similar to those outlawed for good reasons in the case of adoption.

It is hard for a couple who want children and cannot have them. The number of babies available for adoption is far

smaller than the demand, and the result is much sadness. Inevitably, in seeking to do their best for the child, agencies say no to many perfectly competent potential parents. If commercial surrogacy became in practice an alternative to adoption (for the wealthy), with much better odds, an impetus would be created to rapid growth of a practice whose effect is to bring into being children in a necessarily equivocal situation. Adoption, by contrast, is only a matter of doing the best for a child which already exists.

In these circumstances, legislation would be justified to make it a crime for third parties (or rather fourth parties) to arrange surrogacy agreements, whether for profit or not. Direct transactions would be a more difficult problem, for it would be hard to make a couple (and still more a mother) a criminal in such circumstances: that might only encourage an underground trade, given the strong feelings involved. In the meantime, while some compassion should be exercised towards couples entering agreements in good faith in a confusing situation, it should be made clear that they have no claims that can override the interests of the child, and that in future when a mother wants to part with her baby, a surrogacy agreement would only in exceptional circumstances be regarded as strengthening their claim over that of other couples seeking to adopt.

Keeping tabs on British teachers

From Mr R. D. Brierley
Sir, I am sure most people would see little with which to quarrel in Sir Keith Joseph's edict (*Times*, December 31) on the weeding out of incompetent teachers. However, the questionable point raised is how this is to be done.

Like other teachers of many years experience, I have become sadly disillusioned at the way poor teachers have been "got rid of". The only way has been to give them glowing references when they have applied for other jobs and, consequently, very many of them are now in positions of authority ranging from heads of departments and deputy heads to heads and advisers. These, undoubtedly, could judge people of their own ilk, but would they? Isn't there a chance they would secure their own jobs by ignoring real incompetence in favour of persecuting teachers who hold opposite views and contradictory ideas to themselves?

There is also the point that over the years, many authorities, particularly those of a left-wing bias have conspired to keep people of their own persuasion in their educational hierarchy. Can we really believe that political bias would not be shown by these? It has been evident in job placement so why not in the opposite event?

Many older teachers are not just badly motivated and disillusioned because of pay, this is a minor matter against the plummeting of educational standards prevailing at present. I feel constantly insulted by many new aspects of the curriculum I am expected to "teach", thought up by brash, inexperienced "whizz-kids" in positions of authority, many of whom cannot even spell or speak correctly.

Obviously, new technical advancements call for reappraisal of curricula, but this is often being used as an excuse to lower standards, not improve them, by many educational "leaders" whose personal policy seems to be based on all that is new is good and all that is old is bad. If weeding out is to be done effectively, let us include chiefs as well as teachers.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT D. BRIERLEY,
10 Cliftonville Road,
Thornham,
Roxford,
January 2.

News of the antique

From Dr Paul Ashbee
Sir, The book notice in your fascinating first issue facsimile (January 2) was an appropriate curtain-raiser for the now established tradition of significant archaeological news. The *Antiquities of England and Wales*, published in four volumes between 1773 and 1787, were the work of the distinguished antiquarian and topographer, Francis Grose (1731-91). He was a man of Falstaffian amplitude, Swiss descent, Middlesex upbringing and boundless good humour. From his numerous caricatures, witty insights into the antiquarian society of his day, it could be thought that no gathering was complete without a dilapidated chamber-pot exciting animated debate.

None the less, the works that your paper advertised in 1785, and his later *Antiquities of Scotland* (1790-91), although popularised archaeology, did much to dissipate the clinging clouds of fashionable romantic "Gothic" gloom, and point towards notions of objective record, the basis of scholarly archaeological endeavour to this day. I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
PAUL ASHBEET,
The Old Rectory,
Cheddington,
Norfolk,
January 2.

The ring cycle

From Mr Richard Beetham
Sir, I suppose that Christmas is as good a time as any to write about round robins, but Geraldine Norman (*Spectrum*, December 21) should note that they are not the same thing as circular letters. Yours faithfully,
RICHARD BEETHAM,
108 West End Avenue,
Harrowgate,
North Yorkshire,
December 22.

Johnson Matthey

From Lord Allen of Abeydale
Sir, I cannot help thinking that if the Government had studied with rather greater care the report of the Crown Agents tribunal of inquiry in 1982 they would not have been so surprised as they appear to have been over the somewhat inadequate communication between the Bank of England and the Treasury in the Johnson Matthey affair. Yours faithfully,
ALLEN OF ABBEYDALE,
House of Lords,
January 1.

South African reform

From Mr J. Parsons
Sir, I wonder if Dr James Barber, when outlining his proposals "to promote peaceful change in South Africa" (*December 27*), feels that he has grounds for ignoring the existence of the Urban Foundation. Conceived in 1979 by representatives of the private sector, with substantial financial support from British companies operating in South Africa (in addition, of course, to the majority funding provided by indigenous companies). The foundation agreed its initial objectives as a result of consultation with representatives of black communities in the main industrial areas. These priorities, apart from the general intention of endeavouring to influence the government, lie in the

Thoughts on deterrence before brink

From Professor Sir Hermann Bondi, FRS.

Sir, Your leader of December 28 is most valuable in focusing attention on the divergences in defence thinking between the USA and western Europe. My own views differ somewhat and may be worth presenting.

First, a country possessing an independent strategic nuclear weapon is a country no one can afford to make utterly desperate, for then it could, however irrationally, create havoc on an appalling scale. This argument, which underlies the British and the French systems, a *fortiori* applies to the USSR.

Secondly, the loss of any territory to the east of the demarcation line in central Europe would, in the view of virtually all Europeans and many Americans, make the leadership of the USSR desperate.

Thus the best option available is the policy of "containment", first enunciated by the Truman Administration, reconciling ourselves to leaving much of Europe under the control of a doctrinaire and highly unpleasant regime. The enormous price paid by the Poles, the Czechs and through acceptance of this division, by all Germans, is seen in this view as essential in the interests of the supreme need for the avoidance of major war in Europe.

Many in America, in a tradition going back 40 years, have not accepted this argumentation and aim at a strategic superiority which would offer at least some hope of rolling back the iron curtain, even "some risks have to be accepted on the way". This, at present, dominant strain of American thinking finds no echo whatever in a western Europe where even our German friends are not prepared to allow such risks to be run, however close to their hearts the inhabitants of East Germany are.

It is against this background that President Reagan's strategic defence initiative must be seen. While perhaps it offers a hope of a strategic superiority, what appeals us in Europe is that we do not know of any study that shows credibly how a transition from the present "mutual assured destruction" state (which has proved remarkably stable) to an SDI-based system can be carried through without creating an utterly unacceptable risk of a "last opportunity" strike by the USSR.

If the USA pours vast resources into SDI and the result is either a technical failure (as some predict) or a technical success that cannot be

deployed because it would be too dangerous to do so, or, worst of all, by irresistible momentum deployed although it is too dangerous, then all possible outcomes of the SDI look black.

The Prime Minister, wisely not entering a technical argument, has reached a valuable and logically much-needed agreement that at last draws attention to the need to think before deployment. However, it does not remove European regrets at the SDI.

If similar resources were put into other US defence priorities, though these would not offer a hope of freeing eastern Europe, they might yet be quite sufficient to prevent the projection of Soviet power into new Afghanistan or Ethiopia, and perhaps encourage its retreat in such areas, a retreat that is conceivable because these areas are vastly less sensitive than eastern Europe.

Sir, the world depends on Nato being strong and united. The SDI, by exposing so painfully a pre-existing difference in attitudes, has created a difficult situation. The Prime Minister's achievement is a start, but much more is needed on both sides of the Atlantic to strengthen the unity of Nato and its foundation, the attitudes of our peoples.

Yours faithfully,
HERMANN BONDII,
Churchill College,
Cambridge,
December 30.

From Mr Michael Ivens
Sir, Recent letters and leaders in *The Times* have used the propagandist phrase "star wars". I too have fallen into the same error.

Research into methods of stopping a number of nuclear missiles hitting you is defensive. No high frontier protagonist claims that it will be infallible, but it will deter an attacker who would be at a disadvantage if most of his missiles were destroyed.

Critics like Mr Hugh Hanning (*December 24*) fail to deal with the possibility that in the future fanatics in small nations may launch a missile without caring for the consequences. Surely we - and that includes the Soviet Union - should welcome a method that could destroy such a missile before it finds its target? At present we could only duck.

Yours truly,
MICHAEL IVENS,
49 Ordinance Hill, NW8,
December 26.

Science by design

From Professor B. Crossland, FRS
Sir, I read with great interest Professor Kennaway's letter (*December 29*). Though I agree with much which he states, I would go further.

Few scientific ideas are in themselves profitable and scientists are mostly unable to recognise those few ideas which could lead to profitable exploitation. A fine example is provided by Lord Rutherford's splitting of the atom and his realisation of the energy which could be released.

It was a fine piece of scientific work, but in truth it probably involved far greater intellectual challenges to achieve an economical source of power from nuclear fission. The successful development of nuclear power required the development of many new and extremely novel engineering and scientific concepts, and the solution of formidable problems of fabrication and construction of the reactor.

It seems to me that design cannot be divorced from science but, even more importantly, it cannot be divorced from manufacture and the market demand. A fine example of

this is the new telephone transmitter and receiver designed by STC in its Monkstown (Northern Ireland) plant. The cost has been reduced to one fifth compared with components they replaced by a careful integration of manufacture, testing and design. Hopefully this design will gain a substantial part of the world market.

In this country we have far too long concentrated on teaching what is basically engineering sciences in our institutions of higher education with a few notable exceptions, though the Engineering Council is trying to encourage radical change.

In my opinion, all engineering educators should have to swear a hippocratic oath that they see engineering as being concerned with design for profitable manufacture. Some would object to the exclusion of science in this brief definition, but engineering sciences are not free-standing edifices but should be focused on design and optimisation of design.

Yours faithfully,
B. CROSSLAND,
The Queen's University of Belfast,
Belfast,
Northern Ireland,
December 31.

Without prejudice

From Mrs R. T. L. Arentsen
Sir, Deploping single-issue fanaticism Mr Levin asks (*December 31*): "Who will stand on either hand and keep the bridge with me?"

While offering to take up station alongside Mr Levin I should like to suggest that he re-phrases his invitation: knowing the enemy, and the tactics employed, he will need helpers in front and behind as well as on either side.

Yours faithfully,
FRANCES ARENTSEN,
16 Normanton Road,
Clifton,
Bristol,
Avon,
January 2.

From Mr Plantagenet Somerset Fry
Sir, Bernard Levin (*December 31*) wants to see that when 1985 comes to an end, this country will be more free than it was when the year began.

A start could be made by ensuring that a Freedom of Information Act is on the statute book by December 31, 1985. Yours faithfully,
PLANTAGENET SOMERSET FRY,
Wolffson College,
Cambridge,
December 31.

areas of land tenure, housing, home-improvement, community facilities, education and training job opportunities and employment practices - in that order.

If, as I believe to be the case, progress is being made, the immediate requirement seems to be a quickening of the pace by further strengthening the foundation, not a new and separate initiative which would inevitably result in a dissipation of effort.

May one add a suggestion to Dr Barber's proposals? He refers, with every justification, to white intransigence. Unfortunately, there is also an element of black intransigence in the situation. It does not seem to be widely known outside South Africa that black leaders refuse absolutely to discuss a qualified franchise; they will consider only the immediate

concession of "one man, one vote". In the light of the economic histories of most, if not all, African countries since gaining independence, one wonders if, in a country as technologically advanced as South Africa, a qualified franchise initially might not be a safer and more realistic proposition.

If black leaders could be persuaded at least to discuss this proposition as a basis for negotiation, it might prove to be the key to unlock the tragic impasse and thus avoid bloody conflict which could be so damaging to all aspects of life in South Africa.

Yours faithfully,
J. PARSONS,
Catsby Farm House,
Lapworth,
Warwickshire,
December 27.

ON THIS DAY

JANUARY 7, 1982

Arthur Brown King, one of the best Special Correspondents of *The Times* in Ireland in 1921-22, was kidnapped by armed men in Dublin on January 4, 1922. Apparently one of his articles from Cork had given cause for the IRA brigade there, to take such an action. King was driven to Cork and it was only the efforts of Michael Collins and the IRA chief which finally secured his release.

KIDNAPPED ADVENTURES OF OUR CORRESPONDENT

(From our Special Correspondent - Mr A. B. Kay)

It is a unique experience to be kidnapped, seized in the heart of Dublin, carried 180 miles by armed captors, tried by a military court in the humble sitting room of a typical Irish homestead, and reclaimed by representatives of the headquarters of the Irish Republican Army.

Let me tell the story of my journey from Dublin. At first my captors were taciturn and refused to discuss matters at all, but as we progressed towards our destination, they thawed, and, as Englishmen and Irishmen always do when they forget their political differences, we became almost friendly. The commandant in charge of the party - he was so polite, and I did not know whether that was his actual rank or not - established - was the typical type of adventurer.

I shared a bedroom that night with two of my escort, who were determined to carry out their orders not to let me go out of their sight. I told the chief of the escort that I suspected that the reason for my kidnapping was that the article on Cork had given offence to certain members of the Republican Army in the region, and that it might be alleged that I had spoken to no one competent to speak of the feelings of the Army. I mentioned the name of a person with whom I had had a conversation and also remarked that the conversation had taken place in the presence of witnesses. "Oh," said the officer, "we'll soon get them here if you call for them." One does not usually submit to censorship of this kind, but affairs in Ireland are determined by any of the recognized rules.

It was approaching evening before two motor cars containing the two witnesses and the officials who were to conduct the inquiry. After tea the Court assembled in the little sitting room, and the charge was formulated against me, that I had published news concerning the Army which had not been authorized, and that the views put forth did not represent the views of the Army in Cork.

The Commandant of the First Cork Brigade declared that he was responsible for my arrest, and in a fashion he acted as counsel for the prosecution. The evidence against me was the article which I had written from Cork, the copy being marked with ink where the passages were complained of. I was asked if I had talked with any officers or men of the Army, and my reply was that I had sensed the atmosphere of the South. I said that I had had a conversation with an officer in Cork, whom as a stranger I looked upon as a competent military authority to "put me wise" to the feeling in military circles.

Naturally one did not expect any man holding an official position to give an interview to the ordinary members of the press, but it is possible by conversation to elicit ideas. The form in which those ideas are put forth is the concern of the writer.

I told my story, and the liaison officer was called. He admitted that I had had conversation with him lasting between half an hour and an hour, but denied that he gave permission for an interview. It was his word against mine, and the Court might reasonably be described as ex aequo. Curiously enough, I found that my only witness had also experienced a singular lack of interest in the conversation between the official and myself, and he confessed himself quite unable to recall any of the statements made. That was unfortunate, but there it was.

I was asked to retire from the room while the Court considered its verdict.

After a very considerable interval, I was asked to return, and was then informed that if I chose to give a statement that I did not interview officers and men of the Republican Army (the liaison officer not being regarded as an active officer) I should be allowed to go; otherwise I should be deported. I made a statement and was allowed to depart, and the whole party motored some dozen miles to Cork. Here I was met by the deputation from Dublin, who strongly resented the action of Cork in carrying out their plot in the metropolitan area.

The age of chivalry

From Mr Merlin Minshall

Sir, Chivalry can easily be cancelled out by the by-laws of organisations like the GLC.

Travelling recently in a London bus I got up and gave my seat (although I am nudging 80) to a lady. At that moment the conductor comes down from the top deck and shouting, "No standing", throws me off.

Annoyance is then further aggravated when the bus queue, which only a minute before I had been heading, says unanimously: "Back of the queue!" Yours, with disillusion,
MERLIN MINSHALL,
The Old Bakery,
Stoke-Ferry,
Kings Lynn,
Norfolk,
December 29.

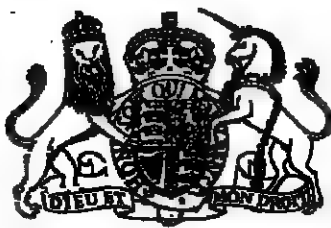
Flipping one's lid

From Mr David H. Hall

Sir, A seigneurial inclination of the head is the most demonstrative form of greeting to be essayed by the wearer of a beret.

Any attempt to adjust the headgear will inevitably result in a heavy fall from one's bicycle with consequent damage to the onions depending therefrom.

I am, Sir, yours etc,
DAVID H. HALL,
59 Western Road,
Oxford,
December 31.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
January 6: Divine Service was held in Sandringham Church this morning.

The Archbishop of York preached the sermon.

Today being the Feast of Epiphany a Sung Eucharist was held in the Chapel Royal, St James's Palace, when the customary offerings of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh were made on behalf of the Queen by Colonel Gerard Leigh and Captain Michael Barrow, RN (Gentlemen Ushers to Her Majesty).

The Reverend Canon Anthony

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. P. Grove and Miss C. J. Mack
The engagement is announced between Roger, son of Mr and Mrs F. E. Grove, of Shipley, West Sussex, and Caroline, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs L. F. Mack, of King's Lynn, Norfolk.

Dr G. T. Houlby and Miss J. L. D. Nedderman
The engagement is announced between Guy, younger son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs T. T. Houlby, of South Shields, and Jenny, only daughter of Dr and Mrs R. M. Nedderman, of Cambridge.

Mr P. S. Laakey and Miss H. E. P. West
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs Raymond Laakey, of Great Hampden, Gloucestershire, and Helen, daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher West, of Cromer, near Stevenage, Hertfordshire.

Mr D. D. McGeorge and Miss S. E. Kahan
The engagement is announced between Douglas, elder son of Mr and Mrs S. D. McGeorge, of Bromhall, Cheshire, and Sarah Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs E. H. G. Kahan, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

Major S. H. C. Marriott and Miss A. D. H. McMonnies
The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Lieutenant-Colonel J. Marriott, of Lynton, and Mrs C. Marriott, of Fordingbridge, and Ann, daughter of Wing-Commander and Mrs D. I. McMonnies, of Liss, Hampshire.

Dr R. G. M. Morris and Miss H. A. Lewis
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs R. W. Morris, of Old Harlow, Essex, and Hilary, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs I. D. Lewis, of Ashstead, Surrey.

Dr P. W. Newman and Miss A. V. Meacham
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs E. Newman, of Harrow, and Angela, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. V. Meacham, of Stanwell, Middlesex.

Mr R. B. C. Ogilvie and Miss C. M. Noble-Jones
The engagement is announced between Robert, elder son of Dr and Mrs B. M. Ogilvie, of Blackwater, Surrey, and Caroline, daughter of Mr and Mrs B. C. Noble-Jones, of Umseki, East Herts, Surrey.

Mr D. R. W. Potter and Mrs M. E. Saunders
The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Mr and Mrs D. R. W. Potter, of Dorchester, Dorset, and Mary, daughter of the late Mr and Mrs W. J. Irwin, of Manchester.

Mr R. M. Toyabe and Miss V. L. Meek
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Toyabe, of Wadsworth, Sussex, and Vanessa, daughter of Mr and Mrs Wilfred Meek, of Tenterden, Kent.

Mr P. L. Williams and Miss S. M. E. McFall
The engagement is announced between Paul, younger son of the late Mr Stanley Williams and of Mrs L. Williams, of Little Court, Old Oxley, Surrey, and Selina, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Gordon McFall, of Great Easton, Dunmow, Essex.

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Catholic swing to conservatism

Clifford Longley

The Roman Catholic Church has a *fin de siècle* feeling to it, a sense that the age of change and reform instituted by the Second Vatican Council may have come to an end, and all the windows opened by Pope John XXIII are being shut again by his present successor.

Last year brought new evidence of this transformation of atmosphere. Liberation theology was attacked by the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, whose head, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, also found time to disparage one of Vatican II's most important innovations, the national episcopal conferences.

Progress towards church unity only inched forward, while strides were made by Pope Paul II in increasing its ultra-conservative influence. Pope John Paul II asserted more forcefully than ever his insistence that contraception was immoral, and there were several key conservative appointments. The whole mood is different from five years ago.

Nevertheless, the swing towards reaction and conservatism is more marked in Rome than elsewhere. But the dispersal of authority away from the centre, begun by Vatican II, never reached the point where Roman tendencies were of only Roman interest.

An idea once invented, however, cannot be dis-invented. The Second Vatican Council happened: the new code of canon law is based on it. An entire generation of priests has grown up who feel no nostalgia for the old ways, whose vocation was to serve a Vatican II church and no other, and who are visibly at a loss even to understand, let alone to



Catholic barons: Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (left) and Cardinal Basil Hume.

sympathize with the present retreat at the centre.

There is, notwithstanding this, a minority of new young ultra-conservatives in the seminaries. But these "young fogies" seminarians seem to be more a psychological quirk than a new movement. So long as the seminary curriculum, those who teach it, and the general ethos of such colleges continue to be shaped by post-Vatican II attitudes, the future of Catholicism must surely be set in that direction whatever Rome does.

The present Pope may be an instinctive reactionary, but he is not a very efficient one. There is an indelible image from the start of the Second World War, a news film of mounted Polish cavalry charging German tanks, sabres drawn.

It is not absurd, nor indeed insulting - to suggest that the Pope could have been one of them. When the Polish government was about to suppress Solidarity, he is said to have threatened to arrive at Warsaw airport uninvited, challenging them to arrest and imprison him, alongside Solidarity's leaders.

He is, in other words, a Chopinesque romantic figure, a

lover of great symbolic gestures in his case, by means of dramatic journeys overseas. But such gestures and such visits, usually leave little visible trace: neither did Chopin drive Russians out of Poland with opus 10, no 12. To turn history requires skill, other than the theatrical, and the Pope is not a great leader, nor a great administrator.

At its top, the Roman Catholic Church is not short of barons, powerful men in their own right. Cardinal Ratzinger is one of them, but most have a base away from Rome, in his discreet way. Cardinal Basil Hume, of Westminster, is another. Were there a papal election in the next five years he would be on everyone's short list.

Cardinal Lorscheider, of Brazil, who stoutly defended liberation theology against Cardinal Ratzinger, is one, too, as is Cardinal Casaroli, the Vatican's secretary of state. They are the "heavyweights" with minds of their own. Cardinal Casaroli took his unprecedented step of dissociating himself publicly from Cardinal Ratzinger's offensive against liberation theology.

The Roman Catholic Church

Holborn's choice



Bricks and bronze: The Rev John Gaskell, Vicar of Holborn, London, inaugurating yesterday a striking bronze at St Alban's Church, Holborn, of Christ being raised from the dead. It is the work of Hans Feibusch, aged 87 (Photograph: John Voos).

Royal Ascot

The Royal Meeting at Ascot will take place from June 19-21. The list for applications opened on January 1.

Those wishing to apply for Royal Enclosure vouchers should apply personally to the Royal Enclosure Voucher Office, Ascot Office, St James's Palace, London, SW1 1BP, before April 30 stating the full names of those members of the families who require vouchers and their ages if between 16 and 25 years.

New applications must apply before March 31 and will be sent forms which should be completed and signed by a sponsor who has been granted vouchers for at least eight previous years. No forms will be considered if they are returned late or incomplete.

The event of the list of new applicants being over-subscribed, it may be necessary to hold a ballot for Gold Cup Day, June 20. If this should occur, new applicants would be informed of the result in May.

In the enclosure ladies will wear formal day dress with a hat which must cover the crown of the head and gentlemen will wear morning dress with top hat, or service dress.

Appointments in the Forces

The Army
HONORARY CONSULTANT: Mr Paul C. K. Yue has been appointed honorary consultant in paediatric surgery to the British Military Hospital, Hong Kong. CHAPMAN, Mr A. D. to HQ RMC, as Senior Chaplain, W 5 Puffin to HQ RMC, as Senior Chaplain.

Royal Air Force
AIR COMMANDER: T. H. Stenier, an Director of General Air Staff, has been appointed Director of Personnel Services (RAF) Jan 1. AIR CHIEF OF STAFF: Mr J. G. P. Stenier, an Director of General Air Staff, has been appointed Director of Personnel Services (RAF) Jan 1.

Medal winners
The Royal Horticultural Society has awarded the Victoria medal of honour in horticulture to Mrs K. N. Dryden, of Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, and Mr L. R. Russell, of Richmond Nurseries, Winklesham, Surrey.

OBITUARY

LORD BLACK

Leader in British commercial vehicle industry

Lord Black, of Barrow, in Furness, who died on December 27 at the age of 91, had in his time filled virtually every position in the British commercial vehicle industry from apprentice engineer to Chairman of the Leyland Motor Corporation. Starting in 1949 he oversaw a series of mergers in the bus and truck sector, culminating with the inclusion of most of the major British names in the car industry, which led to the creation of British Leyland.

Born on January 12, 1893, William Rushon Black's career spanned two world wars and a period of complete change in his industry. Having joined Vickers in 1908 as an apprentice in the shipyard in Barrow-in-Furness, he became in 1924

managing director of Vickers Crayford, which was involved in vehicle body building. This job he described as having been one of the happiest in his career. He loved close contact with men and machines, and all his life retained a warm interest in "the works" and those who manned them, to whom he was known at all times as "Bill".

In 1928 he was appointed general manager of Weyman Motor Bodies, then in 1928 he accepted an invitation to join Park Royal Vehicles as general manager and a director, eventually becoming chairman.

Black's ability to progress in new surroundings was one of his distinguishing characteristics. When Park Royal was taken over by Associated Commercial Vehicles he joined the board and later became its chairman. The subsequent merger of Britain's two largest vehicle manufacturers, ACV with Leyland, brought for him the chairmanship of that com-

pany and the achievement of his dreams for the British commercial vehicle industry.

Black made no secret, however, of his disquiet at the large plan to merge Leyland with British Motors, as he felt strongly that "goods and passengers" did not mix, but his loyalty to Leyland prevailed and he played a major part in that merger.

He was knighted in 1958, and was made a life peer in 1968, including in his title the name of his beloved Barrow-in-Furness. He was president of the Society of Motor Manufacturers in 1953; Chairman of the National Research Development Corporation from 1957 to 1969; president of the Royal Transport Engineers for two years to 1962; a member of the Queen's Award Advisory Committee; a director of Chessington Zoo; and a JP for Middlesex from 1951 to 1960.

Bill Black was a warm and approachable man. He will perhaps be best remembered for an enormous circle of friends in all walks of life, whom he had encouraged and helped, for his unwillingness to give a flat answer, and for his determination to limit their did not know they possessed.

Although he held positions of great power he had that common touch which enabled him to understand other people's problems and to help them to help themselves. He had a strong sense of humour, and was practical with a quick grasp of essentials, being always prepared to give a flat answer to achieve a major objective.

He married in 1917, Patricia Dallas, who died in 1976. They had a daughter who survives him, and a son who was killed in action in the RAF in 1944.

LOVRO von MATACIC

Lovro von Matacic, the distinguished Yugoslav conductor who died on January 4 at the age of 85, was conversant with a wide range of music; he conducted it all with an unerring sense of the correct style and a cosmopolitan wisdom.

He was born as Susak on February 14, 1899. After becoming a member of the Vienna Boys Choir, he studied music at the Vienna Conservatoire. His first appointment was as a répétiteur at the Cologne Opera in 1916. Then he returned to his native land to work as a conductor at Ljubanka and Zagreb before becoming music director of the Belgrade Opera in 1938.

After the Second World War he helped to found the opera house at Skopje and the Dubrovnik Festival. He held the auspicious post of music director of the Dresden Staatskapelle from 1956 to 1958, and was at the same time music director of the Berlin State Opera before taking a similar post at the Frankfurt Opera in succession to Sholt in 1961.

In 1970 he became chief conductor of the Zagreb Philharmonic and four years later took up the same position with

the National Orchestra of Monte Carlo.

His London debut came in 1954 with the Philharmonia Orchestra. That led to several recordings with the same orchestra, including a famous *Widow* with Schwarzkopf and several records of Russian music. These were made under the aegis of Walter Legge, an enthusiast for the conductor's work; he also engaged him to direct a set of *The Girl of the Golden West*, with Nilsson in the title role.

Matacic returned to London and the Philharmonia in the 1960s, and his performance of the Viennese repertoire, particularly the symphonies of Bruckner, were newly acclaimed. In Bruckner he had a firm grasp of structure and line, and an ability for allowing the music to expand to its natural proportions without exaggeration.

The other side of his musical personality accorded with the lighter, effervescent qualities called for by Johann Strauss and Lehar.

He was also a composer, and recently had new choral works performed in Tokyo, Zagreb and Monte Carlo under his own baton.

M MICHEL MAGNE

Michel Magne, the French composer who wrote many film scores has died in hospital in France aged 54.

A child prodigy, Magne studied at the Caen Conservatoire and in Paris and made his debut at the age of 16, conducting his own band. He also wrote a concerto for piano and orchestra at 16, an oratorio and a symphonic suite at 17, and went on to conduct several bands which he formed for the performance chiefly of his own works, in which jazz came to play a major role.

In 1952 he created something of a sensation with his own septet at a Paris concert. In the same year he began to make his reputation as a writer of film-music, with the score for Roger

Vadim's *Warrior's Rest*, starring Brigitte Bardot.

He wrote the music for several Vadim films, including the re-make of *La Route* in 1967, and out of a total of some 90, for such distinguished directors as Bernard Borderie (the *Angélique* series), Luis Buñuel (*Belle de Jour*), Gavras (*The Sleeping Car Murder*, seen on British TV) and Robert Hossein (*Les Mistrables*).

He wrote the music for the Francoise Sagan ballet *The Broken Day* in 1958 (televised by the BBC in 1964).

Magne was one of a number of French composers, among them Michel Legrand and Georges Delerue, who made a decisive contribution to the renaissance of the French cinema in the last 30 years.

SIR RICHARD LEVINGE

Major Sir Richard Levinge, 11th baronet, MBE, died in hospital in Norwich on December 27. He was 73. He was a former deputy managing director of Arthur Guinness, Son and Company, Ltd.

Richard Vere Henry Levinge, only son of the 10th baronet, was born April 30, 1911, and educated at Eton and Balliol College, Oxford where he was Domus Exhibitioner. He served in the Second World War in the

Levi Scouts and on the Staff and was mentioned in dispatches in 1945. He was president of the Salmon and Trout Association.

He married in 1935, Barbara Mary, daughter of G. J. Kidston. They had two sons and three daughters. He married secondly in 1976, Jane Millward.

He is succeeded by his elder son, Richard George Robin Levinge.

MR WILL PAYNTER

Dr Hywel Francis writes: There is an important oversight in your comprehensive obituary on December 13 of Mr Will Paynter, former general secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers. Mr Paynter rejoined the Communist Party in 1977 and remained an active member until his death.

It was typical of the man that he made no great display of leaving or rejoining the only party of which he was a member for most of his adult life.

GENERAL ROBERT E. CUSHMAN

General Robert E. Cushman, Jr., who was Commandant of the United States Marine Corps from 1972 to 1975, died at Fort Washington, Maryland, on January 2. He was 70.

One of the most decorated veterans of the Second World War, Cushman served in Vietnam from 1967 to 1969. He was then Deputy Director of the Central Intelligence Agency for three years.

Mr Victor "Duggie" Dumbrell, MVO, who was Court Correspondent for the Press Association from 1972 to 1977, died on January 2. He was 72.

Lady Stocks, widow of Sir Denys Stocks, CB, OBE, died on January 1, in her 90th year. She was Margaret, daughter of John McKane, and she was married in 1922.

SOOTHEBY'S

FOUNDED 1744

THIS WEEK'S SALES AT SOTHEBY'S

Location	Time	Items
London, 34-35 New Bond Street, W1A 2AA Tel: (01) 493 8080	Thurs. 10th: 10.30 am: Clocks and Watches.	
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OPPORTUNITIES TO SELL AT SOTHEBY'S

Thinking of Selling?	Type of Sale	Next Sale	Closing date & Enquiries
Some of our specialised sales are listed here. If you have an item that you wish to include in these or any other sales please telephone (01) 493 8080 Ext. 123 for details.	Collectors' Items	Chertsey, 20th March	11th Jan. Jack Coventry
	Indian Art	London, 18th April	14th Jan. Jack Coventry
	Japanese Works of Art	London, 22nd May	29th Jan. Jack Coventry

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include: Mr John Dale, Headmaster of Tettenhall College, Wolverhampton, to be Chairman of the Society of Headmasters of Independent Schools from January. He succeeds Mr Dick Gould.

Mr Kenneth Taylor, to be a member of the board of Crown Agents for Overseas Governments and Administrations and the Crown Agents Holding and Realisation Board.

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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Continuous devaluation is policy we can't afford

Floating exchange rates have again allowed Downing Street the luxury of rejecting specific measures to prop up the pound. To put all the blame on the dollar and not respond at all to sterling's weakness is a luxury we can't afford.

The strong dollar may have dominated currency markets for most of the Reagan years, but the pound has also resumed its long-term weakness. Over the past 12 months, sterling has fallen by 8 per cent against the mark and the franc, by 13 per cent against the yen and by 11 per cent overall. That is a substantial devaluation compared with the famous 14 per cent 1967 cut in the fixed rate, made to account for the loss of competitiveness accumulated over many years.

Experience in the sixties taught exchange rate by financial means, such as juggling interest rates, spending and trade, is doomed to failure in the long-run if there is a mismatch between the relative strength and competitiveness of an economy and its exchange rate. Indeed, the stop-go tactics applied to keep sterling's parity at \$2.80, by attacking the symptoms rather than the cause of pressure on the pound, merely damaged the economy further.

The tide of international money flows, first from oil, later bolstered by the removal of currency controls and the advance of electronic trading, reinforced that lesson, sweeping away fixed exchange rates and making it harder for any single country to do more than damp movements by interest rate changes and intervention, as the Bank of England discovered to its cost in 1976. Attempts to reverse rather than merely manage fundamental strength or weakness are likely to prove expensive failures.

These practical lessons have now been well learnt in Britain. Perhaps they have been learnt too well. It is one thing to recognize the supremacy of the market and the undue influence of the dollar, which have rightly ruled out conventional exchange rate targets. It is quite another to leave sterling to find whatever level it may and professing indifference to the result.

This is a mistake. The Chancellor may not worry about what the market does, but the market worries about what he and his agents at the Bank of England both do and say. Indifference can lead them to give the wrong signals to the market. The resulting erratic changes in sterling affect both the real economy and the scope of policy. And it is both illogical and foolish to set the market up as the arbiter of sterling's value and then ignore its judgment on the state of the economy and policy.

The Bank of England's public pronouncement, at a moment when sterling was weak, that there was no need for any rise in interest rates, set off the summer run, forcing a massive and harmful interest rate correction. Mr Nigel Lawson's insistence, before a Commons committee five weeks ago that a strong exchange value for sterling did not figure in his definition of sound money, provided the background for weak oil prices, poor economic and monetary figures and Bank of England resistance to a market rise in interest rates to give the bears of sterling their latest picnic.

Sir Terence Beckett's comforting message for the CBI that sterling's fall is having no greatly damaging effects on industry rings hollow. It might carry more conviction if the CBI had been more sanguine when sterling temporarily hit the roof and pushed chunks of industry up the

chimney in 1980. It would still be wrong. Industry may not be noticing cost inflation, but is losing out on the benefits of lower commodity prices ignored the fall in costs then experienced by Germany and Japan. Now that the productivity slowdown is boosting our wage costs again, industry is in danger of stepping back into the vicious circle again that requires continuous devaluation to remain competitive.

That is one message from the markets. The other, more urgent, is that Mr Lawson is kidding himself if he thinks the money supply is well under control. The markets could be wrong. Recent figures have been distorted as usual and the year's money growth was always expected to be more than usually skewed towards the first nine months. The Bank of England could still pull it off in the gilt-edged market. Tomorrow's figures, which may force the rise in bank base rates to 10 per cent or above which was held at bay last week, will not resolve that dispute.

But few even among the more charitable analysts and forecasters expect £M3 growth to end the financial year much under the 10 per cent ceiling on its target range. And 10 per cent money growth is no great achievement when the miners' strike has left the economy growing slower than expected. At this stage of the cycle, with profits running 18 per cent higher than the previous year and real earnings rising again, the economy should not require the money supply to grow faster than money output. The less charitable fear that the Chancellor is subtly shifting from a money to an interest rate target in his new drive to cut unemployment.

The authorities do not help matters by blaming the weak pound on the dollar and oil prices. North Sea oil has become a convenient alibi to allow us to continue to suppose that sterling is a unique currency whose exchange value can be distanced from the state of the economy and policy. In this, oil fills the same role as the sterling area in the old days. But sterling is not so special. Oil made the pound strong in 1980, but high interest rates drove it to absurd heights. Then there was a genuine conflict between monetary policy and exchange rate management. Now both point in the same direction. There is no excuse to deny the old rule of sound money: it is left to ignore any financial measure that is jumping around too far and too fast.

The long-term downgrading of our money terms of trade is a measure of our continuing economic weakness. If we are to make the second stage of transition to that virtuous circle of a rising exchange rate and sustained growth in living standards with falling inflation, we must either continue rapid productivity growth or make dramatic cuts in the dole queues to boost output relative to demand and ease fiscal constipation.

So the onus is on the Chancellor and his colleagues to pull out every trick in the taxman's book and to employ every crafty manipulation of social security, every possible juggling act with public expenditure to achieve the greatest impact on unemployment in the shortest possible time. A falling pound boosts state oil revenue. But it is far more likely that getting people back to work is more likely to permit sustained cuts in interest rates than that playing fast and loose with money and sterling is to deliver jobs.

Graham Searjeant
Financial Editor

Videos, vegetables add USM variety

By Derek Pain

About a dozen companies are poised to join the Unlisted Securities Market.

They range from Spafax Television Holdings, which produces video programmes to Whitworth's Food Group, a fruit and vegetable business. Others include the Synapse computer group and Bennett and Fountain, an electrical group.

Spafax was started as an in-house video service. Mr Timothy Norman, chairman of a group with 250 salesmen at more than 30 branches, decided to use video presentations to strengthen head office communication with the sales force.

Spafax is being floated off through Huchens Harrison and Co, the modestly sized stockbroker which is rapidly acquiring a reputation for USM issues. The former parent, engaged in the sale of engineering parts through direct van-selling to more than 100,000 outlets, is effectively placing shares. About 80 per cent of the company's capital is being placed with Mr Nicholas Alwyn and Mr Nicholas Tresilian, the two Spafax executives largely responsible for the development of the company, each holding 10 per cent shareholdings.

The company has moved from a £74,000 loss in 1981 to

profits of £258,000 in the year ended March 1984.

Whitworth's, being placed by Springhouse Kemp-Gee the stockbroker, pre-packs vegetables.

The company is the creation of Mr John Allpress, whose family will retain about 75 per cent of the capital after the flotation. Whitworth's, which also sells Western Europe through its Dutch subsidiary and has an agricultural commodity broking, achieved profits of £207,000 before tax in the year to last September.

Prices, page 19

Opec weakness puts further pressure on BNOC pricing

By Jonathan Davis, Business Correspondent

Opec will not apply sanctions against any of its members who break the cartel's latest production quota and pricing agreement, Sheikh Ali Khalifa al-Sabah, the Kuwaiti oil minister, said yesterday at the start of what promises to be a crucial week for the future of the oil price.

Speaking in Peking, Sheikh Ali Khalifa reaffirmed that the new and supposedly tougher pricing arrangements which Opec agreed at its meeting last month would not mean any change in Opec's traditional policy of enforcing its agreements by persuasion alone. "You cannot have sanctions against sovereign nations", he said.

That admission by such a

senior Opec minister is bound to increase the oil industry's already considerable doubts about whether Opec had either the will or the power to prevent further falls in the oil price. With several American oil companies having slashed their quoted oil prices last week, and North Sea oil also falling to new lows on the spot market, the market pressure for a cut in official oil prices has become intense.

The spotlight will again turn to Britain this week, with the British National Oil Corporation expected to have to show its hand and say whether it is proposing a new cut in the price of North Sea oil. At the Government's bidding, the BNOC has been delaying a

decision on its pricing proposals for this quarter until it has had time to absorb the impact on the market of Opec's latest attempt to shore up its \$29-a-barrel price structure by reining its output.

However, the BNOC continuing to run up heavy losses, and the spot market continuing to signal the need for another drop in the official North Sea price, the delaying tactics cannot be maintained indefinitely. Many traders expect a cut of at least \$1 a barrel within the next few days.

Iranian oil officials, meanwhile, said over the weekend that the new prices for their crude oil would be announced today. Iran is expected to raise its official prices by as much as

\$1 a barrel. Although few western traders, or oil companies expect the oil actually to be sold at the new price.

Recent industry estimates suggest that as little as five million barrels of oil a day is being sold by Opec producers at the official price, with the remainder of their output - some 12 million barrels a day - being sold at an open or effective discount.

One big uncertainty in the oil market equation remains the weather. The winter so far has been relatively mild, but if the cold that afflicted most of western Europe at the weekend persists, it could push up oil demand and put a prop under prices.

Henry Boot in £40m rail deal

By Our City Staff

Henry Boot International, has won a valuable slice of a multi-million pound contract to supply the track for new railway system in Singapore.

The Singapore Mass Rapid Transit Corporation has awarded the contract to a joint venture group consisting of Henry Boot International, Gammon (Hong Kong), and Singa Development of Singapore. Henry Boot's share, the second-largest contract awarded as part of the construction project is worth about £40 million.

Estimated to take about four years, the work will involve the construction of 195km of track, in-tunnel, on-viaduct, and at ground level.

Mr Alastair Duncan, managing director of Henry Boot International, part of the publicly-quoted Henry Boot and Sons group, said: "It is a fairly conventional system of track, although in those areas close to dense population it is being floated on a concrete base with special resilient pads to reduce vibration and noise."

The contract is the biggest in Henry Boot's order book. Last year it clinched a £25 million contract to build the superstructure of a multi-storey freight station at Hong Kong's Kwai Chung container terminal, the world's largest.

Dunlop gains Pegi backing for rescue

By Cliff Feltham

Dunlop Holdings has finally swung its leading shareholder, Pegi Malaysia, behind its financial reconstruction plan, but the new chairman, Sir Michael Edwards, still has to win the army of small shareholders who seem unlikely to accept the scheme.

Pegi Malaysia, which owns 26 per cent of the company, has indicated its willingness to go along with terms, which are bound to involve a drastic dilution of equity.

The Dunlop Shareholders' Association, which is meeting Sir Michael in what will be a tense encounter later this week, has been concerned all along that small shareholders should not lose out to the creditor banks.

Professor Robert Pritchard, a spokesman for the association, said: "We had been hoping to be able to influence the package but now we'll just look at it when it comes out. But we shall not hesitate to try to mobilize support if we think the terms are inequitable."

The association has been lobbying for the banks to retain their loans in the company as a gesture of confidence, and although it has not put forward any concrete proposals of its own - mainly because it feels it has been denied access to the necessary information - it would have preferred to see a rights issue later in the year.



Sir Michael Edwards: tense encounter

Dunlop would not disclose the proposals put together by Sir Michael and the 46 creditor banks. But they are likely to involve the banks converting a large chunk of their loans into a new convertible loan stock, writing down in the existing share capital, and a rights issue.

Dunlop said the discussions with Pegi Malaysia, which stands to make a hefty loss on its shareholding, had been "very complex, but conducted on a friendly basis".

The Japanese group, Sumitomo Rubber Industries, which bought Dunlop's tyre operations in Germany as part of the group's retrenchment in Europe, has announced that it will invest 50 million marks (£16 million) in the business this year, more than the former parent spent in the previous two to three years.

NEDC team backs more spending

By Our Business Correspondent

The Government's well-aided scepticism about the economic merits of spending public money on infrastructure projects will be put to one of its severest challenges so far at Wednesday's meeting of the National Economic Development Council.

The council will be presented with a detailed 180-page paper backed by both the Confederation of British Industry and the Trades Union Congress which says there is an urgent need for a large-scale programme of repair and maintenance on Britain's hospitals, roads, schools and sewers.

The report, prepared by Neddy's staff over more than a year, says there is a massive and increasing backlog of repair work.

Apart from hospitals, the report covers five other main areas: roads and bridges; water and sewerage; public housing; school buildings; and the property empire of museums, offices, courts and so on.

The report concludes explicitly that it is up to the Government to take the lead in deciding how the problem of decaying infrastructure should be tackled.

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, will be at Wednesday's meeting.

US NOTEBOOK

Facts belie optimism on recovery

Pollyannas who say we are going to have a good strong recovery this year are too optimistic. Consider the following facts:

1. While short-term US interest rates have fallen dramatically, there has been no such proportionate drop in medium and long-term yields.

At the end of August, 90-day Treasury bills were yielding 10.65 per cent and Federal funds were 11.5 per cent. By the week of December 21, T-bills were down to 7.83 per cent yield, and Federal funds were 8 per cent. Yet the long-term treasury yield over the same period fell from 12.68 per cent to 11.59 per cent - a drop of 10 per cent.

The yield on five-year treasury securities dropped from 12.79 per cent at the end of August to 10.92 per cent in the week of December 21.

The reason for this change is partly the result of the abandonment by the Fed of its mistaken policy of holding up the funds rate quite artificially from April through August, as part of its equally mistaken policy of imposing a money freeze.

2. The world is now on a dollar standard and everything is judged by reference to the dollar. An important ingredient in the forecasts of those who have been telling us that there will be a strong recovery in early 1985 is the suggestion that the dollar is going to decline and that this will stimulate the domestic goods-producing industries in the United States. If, however, the dollar fails to weaken, an important, even vital element in these optimistic forecasts is gone.

3. Commodities are very weak. This week, gold breached \$300 in New York. On Thursday, gold fell briefly under \$300 in London and touched \$301.40 for the January futures contract on Comex. There is a prospect that large gold positions held by thousands upon thousands of speculators who bought gold at \$300 in 1982, will be liquidated. The Commodity Research Bureau index of commodity futures prices has fallen sharply to little more than 240.

4. The collapse of the world oil market has only just started. It has some distance to travel. I find it very difficult to imagine how such grim conditions in almost all commodities markets, coupled with a totally dominant dollar and continuing high medium and long term interest rates can translate into a strong recovery and resurgent inflation.

Maxwell Newton

IN BRIEF

4% forecast by Kaufman

Mr Henry Kaufman, of Salomon Brothers, said in New York that he expects the US economy to expand at an inflation-adjusted rate of about 4 per cent this year. He said: "1985 will be reasonable", and forecast a rebound of the American economy in the first half of the year.

Merrill denial

"Merrill Lynch has denied 'emphatically' London rumours that it intends to bid for Mercantile House, the financial services group whose US investment banking subsidiary is Oppenheimer Securities.

Doubling up

Mutual funds and other investment companies must from April 30 report significant developments to the US Securities and Exchange Commission twice a year instead of once.

Cruzeiro cut

Brazil, which has 223 per cent inflation, has again devalued the cruzeiro. Cut 72 times in 1984, it is devalued from today by a further 1.85 per cent, to 3,244 to the dollar.

Motor cycle plan

Harley-Davidson, the Milwaukee motor cycle builder, is seeking financial backing to make the machines in Birmingham, which now has assisted area status. The plan could provide 1,000 jobs.

MONDAY'S MEETINGS

- 8:30 a.m. Cornwall Communications Ltd - directors' plans for USM listing (take our new USM video).
- 10:30 a.m. Office - presentation on P.W./Reuters Treasury Management Workshop (Speak to Graham Davis, Brown International, re February course).
- 12:00 a.m. Review progress on George Brightwell Engineering audit.
- 12:45 p.m. Lunch - Chamber of Commerce - Fothergill re Freeport seminar.
- 2:30 p.m. Industry Specialists meeting - Building Society developments, 1985.
- 4:00 p.m. Hilary Longton - staff appraisal/counselling.
- 5:00 p.m. To Lane Industries - present results of VAT study.
- 7:30 p.m. Office - pick up 2nd draft of Windsor Chemicals annual report (Board meeting tomorrow).
- 9 p.m. Nothing.

Price Waterhouse
Business Needs Experts.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

Friday's close and change on week:
FT 100 1214.6 (+11.0)
FT 100 1214.6 (+11.0)
Bargains: 23.07 (+0.3)
Dated USM: 103.84 (+0.3)
New York: 1184.86 (+19.21)
Tokyo: 11,558.06 (+15.48)
Hong Kong: 1282.30 (+76.83)
Amsterdam: 187.71 (+4.7)
Sydney: 721.4 (-4.7)
Frankfurt: 1112.7 (+4.8)
Brussels: 160.53 (+2.23)
General: 181.4 (-1.0)
Zurich: 323.30 (+0.30)

GOLD

London fixing: \$303.45pm-\$383.15
close: \$301.25-\$301.75 (\$261-261.50)
New York: \$298.75

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY - Interims: Berkeley and Hay Hill Investments, Carlo Eng, Ellis and Everard, FH Tomkins. Final: A. G. Barr.
TOMORROW - Interims: Brassey, Mountbatten Group. Final: Winterbottom Energy Trust.
WEDNESDAY - Interims: Assoc. Daries, Bespak, Moorgate Inv. Trst. Final: Guinness Peat, Robt. Home, Johnson and Firth Brown, M and G Duell Trust.

THURSDAY - Interims: Ashdown Inv. Trust, British Telecom, Electronic Rentals, Howdon, Jones Stroud, Ldn. Inv. Trst, Magnet and Southern, Melton, Thorn-Emil. Final: Dewhurst and Partner, Moreau Higgs, Radiant Metal Finishing, Vain Poffen International.

FRIDAY - Interims: Peter Black Higgs, Oldcres, Mulliton Elect, Ramers, Stead and Simpson. Final: Associated News Higgs, Cincaprint, Daily Mail and Gen. Trust.

CURRENCIES

Friday's close and change on week:
London: £1.1538 (-0.0089)
\$ 3.6519 (+0.0019)
S: DM 3.0296 (+0.0206)
\$ FF 11.1689 (-0.0101)
\$ Yen 282.44 (-0.0101)
Index: 72.9 (-0.3)
New York: \$1.1505
\$ DM 3.1660
\$ Index: 145.6 (+1.0)

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Rate 9 3/4%
3-month Interbank 10 1/4%
3-month eligible bills 9 7/8%
buying rate
US: Prime Rate 10.75%
Federal Funds 8 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bills 7.84%
Long bond 100% (100 1/2%); yield

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank 9 1/2%
Adam & Company 9 1/2%
Barclays 9 1/2%
BCCI 9 1/2%
Citicbank Savings 10 1/2%
Comobank 9 1/2%
Continental Trust 9 1/2%
C. Hoare & Co 9 1/2%
Lloyds Bank 9 1/2%
Midland Bank 9 1/2%
Nat Westminster 9 1/2%
TSB 9 1/2%
Williams & Glyn's 9 1/2%
Citibank NA 9 1/2%

* Mortgage Rate: 7 day deposits on basis of tender £10,000, 6% to £10,000 up to £20,000, 7 1/4%; £20,000 and over, 8%.

Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Price last Friday	Change on Friday	Price on Friday	Change on Friday	Price on Friday	Change on Friday	Price on Friday	Change on Friday
1	Dorland & Mills	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00
2	UK Electric	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
3	Easton	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
4	Forward Tech	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
5	Sound Diffusion	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
6	Recliner	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
7	NEI	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
8	Polow	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
9	Unitech	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
10	Le Refrigeration	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
11	Can U Densitiser	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
12	Enih	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
13	Meyer Int	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
14	Bailey (Rent) Foster	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
15	Smart U	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
16	Heaven-Summit	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
17	B. Dredging	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
18	Bryant	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
19	Miler (Stanley)	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
20	Rockhouse Dudley	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
21	Hardy & Ramsay	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
22	Belhaven	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
23	Investigation Deal	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
24	Bedingtons	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
25	Vaid	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
26	Alfred Lyons	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
27	Irish Deal	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
28	Whitbread 'A'	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
29	Greenall Wat	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
30	Wolverhampton & D	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
31	Evered	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
32	Proton-Minip	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
33	French (Thomas)	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
34	Elmer	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
35	SKV	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
36	Valma	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
37	Hawker Suddens	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
38	Jordan (Thomas)	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
39	Hawley	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
40	Jordan Math	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00

Weekly Dividend

Company	Dividend	Company	Dividend	Company	Dividend	Company	Dividend
1. Dorland & Mills	1.40	11. French (Thomas)	1.40	21. Hardy & Ramsay	1.40	31. Evered	1.40
2. UK Electric	1.40	12. Proton-Minip	1.40	22. Belhaven	1.40	32. Proton-Minip	1.40
3. Easton	1.40	13. Elmer	1.40	23. Investigation Deal	1.40	33. French (Thomas)	1.40
4. Forward Tech	1.40	14. Meyer Int	1.40	24. Bedingtons	1.40	34. Elmer	1.40
5. Sound Diffusion	1.40	15. Bailey (Rent) Foster	1.40	25. Vaid	1.40	35. SKV	1.40
6. Recliner	1.40	16. Heaven-Summit	1.40	26. Alfred Lyons	1.40	36. Valma	1.40
7. NEI	1.40	17. B. Dredging	1.40	27. Irish Deal	1.40	37. Hawker Suddens	1.40
8. Polow	1.40	18. Bryant	1.40	28. Whitbread 'A'	1.40	38. Jordan (Thomas)	1.40
9. Unitech	1.40	19. Miler (Stanley)	1.40	29. Greenall Wat	1.40	39. Hawley	1.40
10. Le Refrigeration	1.40	20. Rockhouse Dudley	1.40	30. Wolverhampton & D	1.40	40. Jordan Math	1.40

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock	Price	Change	Price	Change	Price	Change	Price	Change	Price	Change
1. Dorland & Mills	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00
2. UK Electric	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
3. Easton	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
4. Forward Tech	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
5. Sound Diffusion	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
6. Recliner	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
7. NEI	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
8. Polow	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
9. Unitech	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
10. Le Refrigeration	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00

Company	Price	Change	Price	Change	Price	Change	Price	Change	Price	Change
1. Dorland & Mills	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00
2. UK Electric	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
3. Easton	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
4. Forward Tech	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
5. Sound Diffusion	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
6. Recliner	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
7. NEI	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
8. Polow	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
9. Unitech	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
10. Le Refrigeration	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00

Company	Price	Change	Price	Change	Price	Change	Price	Change	Price	Change
1. Dorland & Mills	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00
2. UK Electric	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
3. Easton	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
4. Forward Tech	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
5. Sound Diffusion	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
6. Recliner	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
7. NEI	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
8. Polow	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
9. Unitech	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
10. Le Refrigeration	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00

Company	Price	Change	Price	Change	Price	Change	Price	Change	Price	Change
1. Dorland & Mills	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00
2. UK Electric	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
3. Easton	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
4. Forward Tech	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
5. Sound Diffusion	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
6. Recliner	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
7. NEI	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
8. Polow	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
9. Unitech	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
10. Le Refrigeration	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00

Company	Price	Change	Price	Change	Price	Change	Price	Change	Price	Change
1. Dorland & Mills	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00	10.25	0.00
2. UK Electric	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
3. Easton	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
4. Forward Tech	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
5. Sound Diffusion	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
6. Recliner	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
7. NEI	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
8. Polow	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
9. Unitech	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00
10. Le Refrigeration	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	1.40	0.00

Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Begin, Today, Dealings End, Jan 11. Contango Day, Jan 14, Settlement Day, Jan 21.

5 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

Capitalization & Company	Price/Share	Change	Price/Share	Change	Price/Share	Change	Price/Share	Change	Price/Share	Change
1. Brown Shipley	420	0	420	0	420	0	420	0	420	0
2. Great Atlantic	210	0	210	0	210	0	210	0	210	0
3. American	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
4. Chase & J. H. Phipps	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
5. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
6. 4,543.30	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
7. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
8. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
9. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
10. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
11. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
12. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
13. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
14. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
15. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
16. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
17. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
18. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
19. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
20. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
21. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
22. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
23. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
24. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
25. 100	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
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La crème de la crème

PERSONAL ASSISTANT £10,500

A top tip PA position working at Main Board level in a substantial Public Company. You will be required to give the Director concerned a total PA, administrative and secretarial service which will also involve considerable liaison, much of it confidential with the subsidiaries and other Main Board PAs. Applicants should be aged 25-35 years with previous PA/secretarial experience, understanding the need for absolute discretion when required. Altogether an excellent PA position for a discerning PA 100/60.

DUTCH OR GERMAN £10,000

Very much a PA position calling for a seasoned PA who can converse in either Dutch or German. You will be expected to totally organise a mid-90's Dutch national who is responsible for developing corporate finance business trips and client visits. Applicants should be aged 25-30 years and enjoy working on their own initiative in a sophisticated fast moving environment where each day is both different and challenging. Only a little bit of 90/60 v.p.m. Excellent benefits inc. paid overtime.

499 9175 MacBlain

Recruitment Consultants
16 Hanover Square, London, W1.

A BRIGHT FUTURE £9,000

Excellent start to your career in the international recruitment industry as Secretary to the Managing Director. This position offers a great opportunity to develop your skills in a fast-paced environment. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will have a direct line to the Managing Director. This is a fantastic opportunity for a motivated individual looking for a challenging role.

MOVE INTO BANKING £8,200 + bonus

A very prestigious Merchant Bank needs a well organised and efficient Secretary to the Managing Director. This is a fantastic opportunity for a motivated individual looking for a challenging role. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will have a direct line to the Managing Director. This is a fantastic opportunity for a motivated individual looking for a challenging role.

Is Your C.V. Doing Its Job?

Whatever your professional background your C.V. is vital to job-seeking success. Now until the end of January you can have your C.V. professionally prepared and receive three copies individually typed - all free of charge. For details please write to Gail Weston, or telephone 01-499 1232.

General Appointments

WEST END

A vacancy has arisen for a trainee broker. The successful applicant will be aged 22+ and of a smart appearance. No previous experience necessary as full training will be given. For a confidential interview ring Peter Ross on:

01-409 3013

MAGAZINE EDITOR

For a well-known magazine a vacancy has arisen for a Magazine Editor. The successful applicant will be aged 25+ and have a minimum of 5 years' experience in the magazine industry. This is a fantastic opportunity for a motivated individual looking for a challenging role.

THE MEDICAL SECRETARY

Applications should be sent to the Medical Secretary position. The successful applicant will be aged 25+ and have a minimum of 5 years' experience in the medical secretarial field. This is a fantastic opportunity for a motivated individual looking for a challenging role.

CANVASSES/SALES PERSON

Good potential for a canvasser/sales person. The successful applicant will be aged 25+ and have a minimum of 5 years' experience in the canvassing/sales field. This is a fantastic opportunity for a motivated individual looking for a challenging role.

THREE TRAINEE EXECUTIVES

Three trainee executives for a leading company. The successful applicants will be aged 25+ and have a minimum of 5 years' experience in the executive field. This is a fantastic opportunity for a motivated individual looking for a challenging role.

THE IBC GROUP

THE IBC GROUP plc, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire CV35 9NU Telephone 0783 204255 Telex 37201

SW6 OFFICE MANAGER

Up to £15,000 p.a.
Fast moving management consultants are looking for a professional. The successful applicant should have management experience and will already have been totally responsible for running a busy office and for acting as the Managing Director's right hand.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES

Please phone Sally Owens on 01-235 6427
4 Park Street London SW1
(Rec Cons)

PRESIDENTS P.A.

£10,000
Leading international investment bank needs a highly experienced P.A. to assist their President. The successful candidate should have excellent organisational skills, a mature and flexible attitude, and be capable of handling a demanding and responsible role. A strong academic background is also required. Age 25-35.

PERSONNEL P.A.

£7,500 + Mortgage
Progressive Merchant Bank requires a secretary/administrative assistant to join their Personnel Office in a rapidly expanding staff department. Candidates should be aged 25-35, have a Level 1 secretarial qualification, and have good secretarial skills. Salary is negotiable.

FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD

A very well known company based in the food and drink industry is seeking a young, enthusiastic Secretary to the Managing Director. This is a fantastic opportunity for a motivated individual looking for a challenging role.

01-236 372 City

01-499 8070 West End
Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

OFFICE MANAGER LUTON

£10,000
Working in Luton, the Multi-National's Contracts Manager who is looking for a highly motivated and efficient Office Manager. This is a fantastic opportunity for a motivated individual looking for a challenging role.

STELLA FISHER

115, New Bond Street, London W1.

ADMINISTRATION SECRETARY

Successful private hospital requires Secretary to the General Manager. The successful candidate should have excellent organisational skills, a mature and flexible attitude, and be capable of handling a demanding and responsible role. A strong academic background is also required. Age 25-35.

MEDICAL SECRETARY

The responsible position as Personal Secretary to the Managing Director of a leading medical firm. The successful candidate should have excellent organisational skills, a mature and flexible attitude, and be capable of handling a demanding and responsible role. A strong academic background is also required. Age 25-35.

APPOINTMENTS

The General Trading Company
We are looking for a highly motivated and efficient Secretary to the Managing Director. This is a fantastic opportunity for a motivated individual looking for a challenging role.

WE NEED MATURER RESPONSIBLE

Individuals to join our team. The successful candidates will be aged 25+ and have a minimum of 5 years' experience in the relevant field. This is a fantastic opportunity for a motivated individual looking for a challenging role.

SALES AND MARKETING APPOINTMENTS

YOUR VOICE could be your fortune. We are looking for a highly motivated and efficient Secretary to the Managing Director. This is a fantastic opportunity for a motivated individual looking for a challenging role.

01-730 0411

ADMINISTRATION SECRETARY

Successful private hospital requires Secretary to the General Manager. The successful candidate should have excellent organisational skills, a mature and flexible attitude, and be capable of handling a demanding and responsible role. A strong academic background is also required. Age 25-35.

ADMIN SECRETARY LEISURE INDUSTRY £8,000 + PERKS

At least a non-routine job! Very little Secretary work but lots of administration and phone work. This is an important and demanding role as you'll be acting as the liaison between head office and the managers of their numerous pubs and restaurants. Attend pub openings, dinner-dances etc so your social life will never be dull. Skills of 80/60 required and some experience of WP. Outgoing personality with excellent phone manner. Age 25+.

WHISKY MAC WITH LANGUAGES

Bright young secretary with about 2 years experience to work for Director and Manager of Export Division in large international company. Use your 'A' level French and hopefully German too when dealing with clients and suppliers. PR and advertising duties and handle travel arrangements. Salary 80/60 required.

01-236 372 City

01-499 8070 West End
Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Own Initiative £9,000

New position in a new office in W.C.2 will see a good organising P.A. Secretary to a very successful firm of consultants. A second European language could be a help. Good secretarial skills required.

01-236 372 City

01-499 8070 West End
Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

European Affairs £8,250

Assistant Director of European Affairs. The successful candidate should have excellent organisational skills, a mature and flexible attitude, and be capable of handling a demanding and responsible role. A strong academic background is also required. Age 25-35.

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SALES AND MARKETING APPOINTMENTS

YOUR VOICE could be your fortune. We are looking for a highly motivated and efficient Secretary to the Managing Director. This is a fantastic opportunity for a motivated individual looking for a challenging role.

It's New York They won't sign the contract until we tell them where we get our temps.

Bernadette of Bond St.
No. 55, (near Bond St) London W1
01-629 1204
FOR EXEMPLARY TEMPORARIES

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BILINGUAL BANKERS

Seek super secretaries
FIVE well known banks are looking for bilingual secretaries with excellent French and English skills. This is a fantastic opportunity for a motivated individual looking for a challenging role.

01-236 372 City

01-499 8070 West End
Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

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Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

01-236 372 City

Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Daville

BBC 1

6.30 **Celestial AM.**
6.30 Breakfast with Frank
Bough and Nick Ross. News
from 6.50. 7.00, 7.30, 7.50, 8.00 and 8.30 with
headlines on the quarter
hours; sports at 8.40 and 7.40;
regional news, weather and
traffic at 8.57, 9.27, 9.57 and
10.27; pop music news at 7.22;
financial report at 8.30; plus
Alan Titchmarsh's gardening
hints; advice on finding
employment; and a review of
the morning newspapers.

9.00 **Celestial.**
10.30 **Play School.** (presented by
Stuart McGugan (p) 10.50
Celestial.

12.30 **News After Noon** with Richard
Whitford and Francis
Coville. The weather
prospects come from Tim
McCauley. 12.57 Regional
news (London and SE only).
Financial report followed by
news headlines with subtitles.

1.00 **Pebble MIM at One** includes a
preview of a major new series
on Singapore; music from the
Chris Barber Band; pop;
musicians' health advice from
Leslie Kanner; and guest
Alan Titchmarsh's gardening
new MIM Pickwick. (p) 1.30
7.45 Postman Pat. (p)

2.00 **Ken Men's Chinese Cookery.**
Part one of a series shown
previously on BBC2 in which Mr
Horn demonstrates the correct
techniques of Chinese cooking.
2.25 **See Hear!** A magazine
programme for the hard-of-
hearing (shown yesterday).
2.50 **George of the Jungle** from St
Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh
(shown yesterday). (Celestial)
3.25 **Celestial 3.45** Regional
news (not London).

3.50 **Play School.** (presented by
Stuart McGugan with guest
Floella Benjamin (p) 4.10
SuperTed and the Inca
Treasure (p) 4.15 Jackanory.
Freddie Jones reads part one
of J.R.R. Tolkien's *Father
Time*. 4.30 **Four of the
Happy Days Gang.** The first
of an animated series of
adventures. 4.55 **John
Craven's Newsround.**

5.00 **Blue Peter** with guest 15-year
old Peter Healy, a star of
stage, screen and TV, an
American who is dancing in
the London Festival Ballet's
Nutcracker. (Celestial)

5.30 **Rolf Harris Cartoon Time.** The first
of a new series of
cartoons from classic cartoons
(Celestial) 5.55 **Weather.**

6.00 **News with Sam Llewellyn and
Jeremy Paxman.**

6.30 **London News.**

6.55 **The Superintendents.** Four teams
representing different
departments, riding and
ballooning compete in the
Townsend-Thorson
Superintendents Championship at
the Royal Naval Base,
Portsmouth. In this first heat
the athletes meet the water sports
team.

7.40 **Submarine.** The first of a new
series of short stories about
the submarine and its crew.
The narrator is John Noddy.
8.10 **Personality.** Back on Speaking
Terms. An assessment of the
chances of success in the
talks between Russia and the
United States on the subject of
nuclear freeze.

9.00 **News with John Humphrys.**

9.25 **The Hollywood Guests.** Barry
Norman presents a profile of
David Niven, with contributions
from, among others, Peter
Ustinov, Douglas Fairbanks Jr,
Bryan Forbes and Niven's two
sons, David and James. (See
Choice)

10.15 **John Southern Comfort (1981)**
starring Bill Carradine and
Powers Boothe. The first
showing on British television
of the thriller about a group of
Louisiana Cajun guards on
mercenaries in Vietnamland
inhabited by the Cajun Indians.
The guards upset the locals
and soon discover that they
are being hunted by an unseen
enemy. Directed by Walter Hill.

12.00 **Weather.**

TV-am

6.30 **Good Morning Britain**
presented by Nick Owen and
Jayne Wright. News with
Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30,
7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00;
sport at 6.30 and 7.30; guests
Ray Alan and Zoe Brown, from
6.45; exercises at 6.50 and
8.20; Derek Jameson
comments on the newspaper
news at 7.15; Poppy's cartoon
at 7.22; Bruce Springsteen
pop video at 7.54; astrology at
8.15; Jimmy Graves's
television highlights at 8.33;
financial advice at 8.40;
healthy dieting at 9.05.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 **Thames news headlines**
followed by *Sesame Street*.
10.25 **Gideon.** Adventures of a
farmyard dog, with voices by
Tim Brook-Taylor (p). 10.30
Our Backyard. Peter Harris has
read and then Springsteen
pop video at 7.54; astrology at
8.15; Jimmy Graves's
television highlights at 8.33;
financial advice at 8.40;
healthy dieting at 9.05.

10.50 **Make It Right.** Stephen Atkinson
with ideas for making
attractive items from
recycled materials.
11.35 **Fabulous Fables.** A
series of cartoons. 11.55
Rub a Dub Dub. Up dated
versions of traditional nursery
rhymes.

12.00 **Tickle on the Tum.** Village
stories. 12.10 **Lefty's** Prefect to
the story of *Dancing Queen*.
12.30 **Voices in the Dark.** The first
of six programmes on divorce.
This and part two are in drama
form with 13-year old Carol
caught between her warring
parents.

1.00 **News at One** with Leonard
Parkin. 1.20 **Thames news.**
1.30 **Flint Enchantment (1948)**
starring David Niven and
Terence Wright. Romantic tale
of a young girl with a
problem who goes to her
father for advice. Directed by
Livingston. 3.25 **Thames news**
headlines. 3.30 **The Young
Doctors.**

4.00 **Doctors on the Turn.** A repeat of
the series. 4.15 **The Moomins.** A
new series. 4.20 **He-Man and
Masters of the Universe.**
Animated science fiction
series. 4.45 **Chucky's**
Children. Episodes one of a
new sub-series. 5.15
Emmerdale Farm.

5.45 **News.** 6.00 **Thames news.**
6.25 **Help!** The first of three
programmes linked with the
new drama series about
children and divorce. *Voices in
the Dark* (part one was shown
at 12.30). This evening
children talk about divorce as
seen through their eyes.

6.35 **Crossroads.**

7.00 **Automania.** The series on
man's love affair with the
motor car continues with an
examination of the growth in
mass production of the car
and includes archive film of
Ford's high speed assembly
line for the Model T.

7.30 **Coronation Street.** Will Hyde
take in his bed? And Kevin
Webster's pig headpiece
becomes worse (Oracles).

8.00 **Full House.** A new comedy
series about first time house
buyers - two couples who
have found the houses of their
dreams but are unable to
afford the selling price (Oracles).

8.30 **World in Action.** Taken on
Trust. A documentary that
reveals disturbing evidence of
serious flaws in the American
tests on the drug Bendrocin.
Quincy. The investigative
journalist has an epidemic
on his hands when a virus-
carrying patient leaves
hospital without permission.
News at Ten followed by
Thames news headlines.

10.30 **Snooker.** The Mercantile Credit
Classic from the Spectrum
Arena, Warrington, presented
by Dickie Davies.

12.15 **Night Thoughts.**

Taken on Trust: World in
Action (TV, 8.30pm)

I take issue with Barry Norman
who, passing judgment on David
Niven in the *FOCUS* 11.30
episode, finds that he will be
remembered more as a
recountant than actor. Had
Mr Norman said Niven was a better
recountant than actor, I would
not have quarrelled with him. Hints
dropped tonight that the actor's
reminiscences were not always
terribly true. You have only to
compare the wildly differing
versions he gave of the same
incident to come to the same
conclusion. But, if style is a story-
teller's strength, and we have a
couple of his best years tonight.
Two things merge clearly: that
Niven, with one exception
(*Separate Tables*) was not able to
play many variations on the theme
of the British charmer that was his

CHOICE

signature tune; and, except for his
early womanising days and the
short spell when he produced a
Hyde to match his Jekyll, he did not
provoke anyone to say a bad word
about him.
● **WHERE IN THE WORLD?**
(Channel 4, 8.00pm). HTV's variant
on the travel quiz theme, has a
panel of celebrities who have no
inhibitions about giving the
chairman (Ray Alan) a kicking off
when he deserves it. That helps to
give the show the snap, crackle
and pop it otherwise lacks. The
questions range from the normal
pattern: easy ones like "Why do
the Reichenbach Falls make you
think of Baker Street?" tricky ones
like the region of origin of the
cucumber in which a pretty girl

serves the panel with what looks
like black ice-cream with goose-
berries; and the difficult, the
purpose for which a jar with
a hole in the bottom is
intended. What I particularly like
about *Where in the World?* is that
the panelists get on with the job
for which they have been paid
instead of making use of the game to
swell their egos.
● **Radio highlights:** THE
ASSOCIATIONS OF WAR (Radio 3,
10.10pm). The fourth of five talks
about Eliot's Four Quartets, which
must be the most comprehensive
examination any poem has ever
undergone on radio, and there is a
feature in WOMAN'S HOUR (Radio
4, 2.00pm) that confirms our worst
fears about the health perils of life
in a high-decibel world such as
ours.

Peter Daville

BBC 2

9.00 **Celestial.**
9.25 **News summary** with subtitles.
9.30 **World Data.** Highlights of last
night's first round matches in the
Embassy World Professional
Championship, introduced by Tony
Gubba from Joffe, Stoke-on-Trent.
The commentators are Sid
Waddell and Tony Green.

9.50 **Film: Susan Slept Here (1954)**
starring Debbie Reynolds and
Dick Powell. Miss Reynolds
plays a delinquent who is
taken by two policemen to
spend Christmas with a
Hollywood scriptwriter - but
don't ask me why. The film
was Powell's last before his
retirement from screen acting.
Directed by Frank Tashan.

7.35 **Flower of the Month.** The first
of a new series, presented by
Geoffrey Smith, in which Mr
Smith selects a popular flower
in season and gives advice on
how to plant and look after it in
the garden. This evening's
subject is hawthorn and he
looks at hawthorn gardens in the
winter and in summer
including the Savill Gardens in
Windsor Great Park and
Bressingham Gardens near
Ipswich, Essex.

7.45 **Vegetarian Kitchen.** The first
of a six-part series in which
Sarah Brown illustrates how
various and healthy vegetarian
cooking can be. Miss Brown
begins with courgettes stuffed
with vegetables and herbs,
wholemeal lasagne with
spinach and mushrooms, and
cashew pasta. Her guest is
Kate O'Mara who prepares her
favourite vegetarian salad (p).

8.10 **The Bob Monkhouse Show.** A
new series of comedy shows,
presented by Bob Monkhouse.
His guests are Russ Abbot,
Ruth Madoc and, from the
United States, the
unpredictable Unknown
Comic.

9.00 **Hilary.** Situation comedy
starring Marti Caine as the
television chat show
researcher, divorced with a
19-year old son. In tonight's
episode Hilary is given the
task of persuading a shy
stunt man to appear on the
programme (p).

9.30 **Horizons: Colourful Notions.** A
documentary in which Dr
Edwin Land, the man
responsible for the development
of the Polaroid instant camera in 1948,
explains, in his first television
interview, a revolutionary new
theory of colour vision that
demolishes existing ideas of
what colours really are.

10.20 **World Data.** Second round
matches in the Embassy World
Professional Championship,
introduced by Tony Gubba.

10.50 **Newsnight.** The latest national
and international news plus
extended coverage of the main
stories of the day.

11.35 **World Data.** Further coverage
from Joffe, Stoke-on-Trent,
of second round matches in
the Embassy World
Professional Championship.
Ends at 12.15.

CHANNEL 4

2.35 **Vietnam: The Two Thousand**
Day War. Part eight of the 26-
episode series examines the
corruption that came with the
American force, and affluent
and by high technology,
which spread rapidly through
South Vietnamese society
creating political jealousy and
discontent between the
Americans and the
Vietnamese at all levels.
3.00 **Cricket: The Mercantile**
Credit Classic from the
Spectrum Arena, Warrington.

4.00 **A Plus 4.** Magazine
programme, edited by Mavis
Nicholson, Gill Nevill and Paul
Jones.

4.30 **Countdown.** The opening
round of a new series of the
words and numbers game
features London taxi driver
Leslie Silver and Ann Goodall
from Brighton.

5.00 **Alma.** More comedy from the
Phoenix, Arizona, diner,
where today, Alma's married
brother and an old
flame of F.O. Al, re-appears
on the scene after his third
divorce to begin his affair with
Flo from where it left off.

5.30 **The World at One.** Presented
by Fred Harris. Advice on
building up programmes.

6.00 **Where in the World?** Travel
quiz game chaired by
Ray Alan. John Carter, John
Norwich, Katie Boyle, Trevor
Macdonald, Lynsey de Paul
and Wynford Vaughan
Thomas parade their well-
rounded knowledge (See
Choice).

6.30 **A Question of Economics.**
The start of a 20-programme
series, presented by Peter
Donaldson and Zelnah
Sadler, which aims to explain
why the way the western
world's purse strings are
pulled affect our everyday
lives.

7.00 **Channel Four News** with Peter
Sissons.

7.50 **Comment from West German**
law student, Lorenz
Kodderitzsch.

8.00 **Brookside.** Heather is working
with the new man in her
professional life.

8.30 **Basketball.** Live coverage of
the second half of the
Kellogg's Cup Final, between
Kingston and Warrington.

9.30 **Annexes: A Woman's**
Place. A documentary,
narrated by singer Helen
Raddy, that follows the
progress of the first all-woman
climbing team to tackle
Annapurna.

10.00 **St Elsewhere.** More drama
from the staff and patients
of the run-down Boston
hospital.

10.55 **The Eleventh Hour: Women**
Directed by Alice Guy in 1913,
is a domestic comedy about
suspected marital infidelities:
"Is she a Woman, directed by
Jill Craigie in 1980, argues the
case for women's equality:
Cosmoline Women, directed
by Elizabeth Barrett in 1982, is
a tribute to the woman who
fought for the right to work
in American coal mines.

12.25 **Celestial.**

Radio 4

On long wave. 1 Stereo on VHF.

5.50 **Shipping Forecast.**
6.00 **News.** 6.10 **Weather.**
6.15 **Farming Week** from Northern
Ireland.

6.25 **Trayer For The Day.**
6.30 **Today.** including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30
News Summary. 6.55, 7.55
Weather. 7.00, 8.00 Today's
News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45
Thought for the Day. A look
back at the week.

8.25 **The Week on 4.** A look
back at the week.

8.43 **First Century Long Ago (p)** A
Delight in Nature. 8.57 **Weather.**
Travel.

9.05 **Start the Week** with Richard
Baker and studio guests.
10.00 **News.** 10.10 **Weather.**
10.15 **Start the Week.** With Louise
Bolton (p).

10.30 **Morning Story.** "Child's Play" by
Ray Harris. Read by Mary
Winch.

10.45 **Daily Service (pam, page 28).**
11.00 **News.** 11.10 **Weather.**
11.15 **Start the Week.** With Louise
Bolton (p).

11.48 **Poetry Please.** A selection
by Alan Brownjohn, read by
Peter Jeffrey. 11.50-12.00
12.00 **News.** You and Yours. Consumer
affairs.

12.27 **Mythical Legend.** A Tale of Two
Cities. By Wally K. Daily (first
in series). 12.55 **Weather.**

1.00 **The World at One.** Shipping
forecast. 1.55 **Weather.**

2.00 **News.** Woman's Hour. Today's
focus includes an investigation
by John Jackson into the effects
on our health of the excessively loud
noises that are part of our daily
existence. 2.15 **Weather.** 2.30
The World at One. Shipping
forecast. 2.55 **Weather.**

3.00 **The Afternoon Play: Cover Up.** by
William Somerset Maugham. A
former police officer back into the
force from which he had been
kicked out. With David
Andrews, and David Garth
(p).

4.30 **Weight-In.** Join the slimming club
of the all-day programme.
balanced health eating. With
Audrey Epton and David Ponting.
8.00 **News.**

Radio 3

5.55 **Weather.** 7.00 **News.**
7.55 **Morning Concert.** Locks's Music
for 15th March. 8.00 **News.**
8.05 **Concert.** Purcell's O Sing unto
the Lord (David Thomas, bass);
Bach's Solo No 1 in E flat
Major. 8.15 **Weather.** 8.30
Bach's Symphony No 35.
8.00 **News.**

5.00 **Play Magazine.** 5.50
Shipping Forecast. 6.00
The Six O'Clock News. Financial
Review.

6.30 **The News Quiz.** Simon Hoggart
asks questions to Alan Corin,
Peter Hooton and Chris Potter.
7.00 **News.**

7.25 **Archers.**
7.30 **Enterprise.** We meet the finalists
in a £10,000 competition.
7.45 **Science Now** with Clive Cookson.
8.15 **The Monday Play.** *Whithers* in
G. K. 301 (Lucia/Elliott). Brahm's
and Strauss Songs of Ophelia
Sarah Walker, mezzo; Edgar's
Symphony No 5.

8.45 **Kaleidoscope.** Arts magazine.
9.15 **A Book at Bedtime.** *Empire of
the Sun* by J. G. Ballard.
9.30 **News.** 9.40 **Weather.**
9.45 **Start the Week.** With Louise
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Guarded optimism on Geneva arms talks

Continued from page 1

American negotiator at the INF talks on medium range missiles, General Ed Rowley, the former Star negotiator, Mr Robert McFarlane, the National Security Adviser, Mr Richard Perle, the hardline Assistant Secretary for Defence, and Mr Kenneth Adelman, head of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

Mr Shultz said it was a mark of Mr Reagan's serious approach that he had despatched such a high powered team to Geneva. He said America was ready for "serious discussions". He hoped his meetings with Mr Gromyko would "set our countries on a path toward new negotiations and equitable and verifiable agreements". Verification is one of the main obstacles to arms control agreements.

The Secretary of State emphasized that the Geneva talks would not negotiate substantive agreements but would only identify future agendas and arms forums. Washington had fully consulted its European allies.

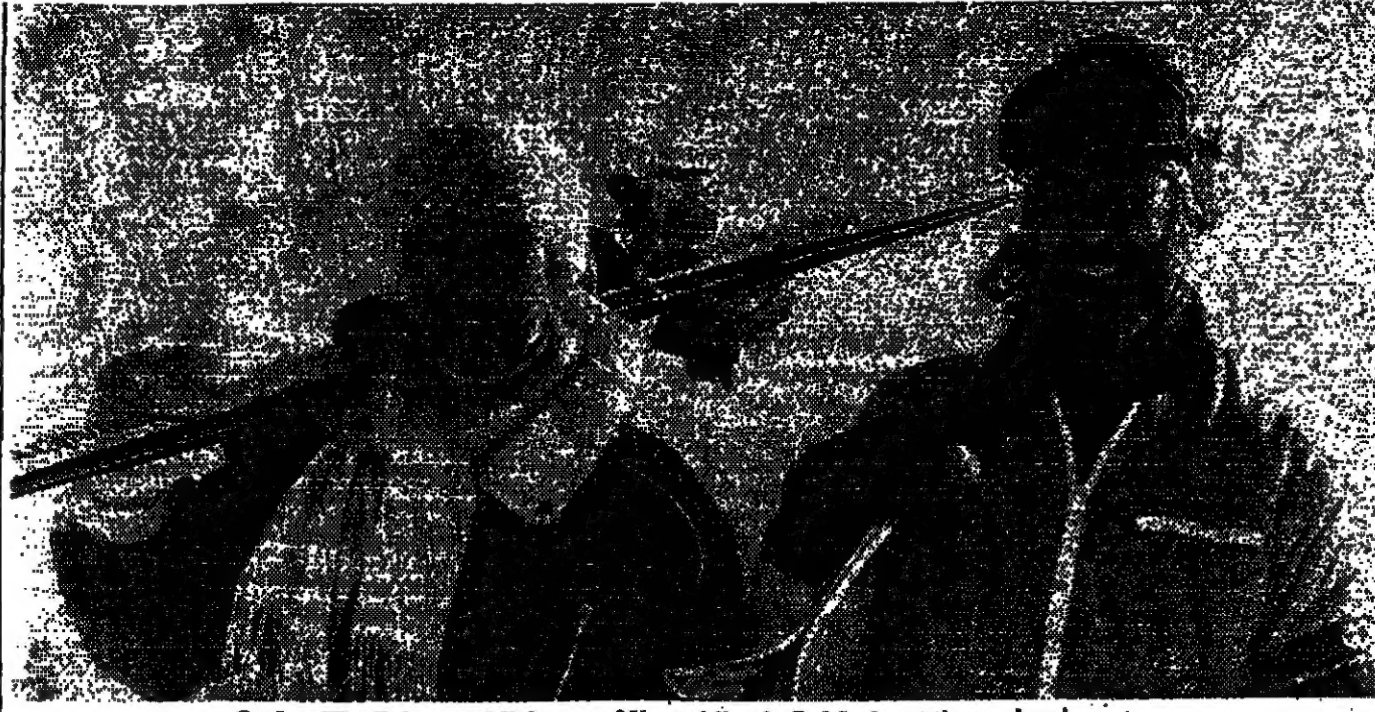
The incident last week involving a Soviet cruise missile which strayed across Norway and crashed in Finland had given added urgency to the talks.

● MOSCOW: President Chernenko said on Saturday that United States development of space weapons would be an irreversible step and he gave a warning against destabilizing the strategic situation between the superpowers (Reuters reports).

In a message to a group of international clergy, the Soviet President reiterated the importance Moscow attaches to reaching an accord on space-based missile defence systems.

● WASHINGTON: Senior American and Soviet officials will meet in Moscow this week for the first high-level trade talks between the superpowers since 1978. But US officials said they do not expect any dramatic breakthroughs (Reuters reports).

Mr Lionel Olmer, the Commerce Under-Secretary, leads an 11-member US delegation. Mr Vladimir Sukhov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade, heads the Soviet delegation for three days of talks opening tomorrow.



On Ice: The Prince and Princess of Kent skiing in St Moritz at the weekend

Snow and chaos forecast

Continued from page 1

vehicles were trying to keep roads in West Sussex clear yesterday.

Farmers have been issued with snow ploughs for tractors by the county council.

Three children missing from their homes in New Milton, Hampshire, since Saturday afternoon were discovered yesterday on Brownsea Island, Poole Harbour. They were Karl Moxon, aged 12; his brother, Stephen, aged eight and Jayne Harris, aged 11.

Forty-five sub-aqua divers from Swindon swam 3.5 miles of the River Thames from Eaton Hastings to Redcot, near Faringdon, Oxfordshire, yesterday to raise more than £450 for the Royal National Life-Boat Institution.

Prince William, built his first snowman with his cousin, Peter Phillips, at Sandringham.

In France the temperature fell to -24°C, killing at least nine people. Venice lay under six inches of snow.

Belgium was blanketed, with temperatures in the Ardennes falling to -25°C. About 17 inches of snow fell on some high areas near the German frontier.

The port of Murmansk in northern Russia was brought to a standstill as temperatures dropped to -39°C, the lowest ever recorded there in January. Temperatures reached -50°C in the region.



Gone fishing: Mr Robert Percy braving snow for a spot of angling on the Wey near Godalming



Gone under: Swindon Sub-Aqua Club members diving in the Thames for charity

Letter from a village on the Ganges

The catechism of Veenu

The distinguished Kremlinologist, Journalist of the Year Victor Zorza, went to live in a remote Himalayan village four years ago.

Before that he divided his time between London and Washington, where he wrote for the *Washington Post* and was *Adjunct Professor of International Relations* at the Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies. His weekly

column, which appeared in two dozen of the world's leading newspapers, made him an internationally recognised authority on the Communist world and East-West relations.

After his 25-year-old daughter died of cancer in an Oxford hospice, he wrote with his wife a book, *A Way to Die*, designed to show how hospice care can help the patient and the family to cope.

The village on the Ganges, in the upper reaches of the river, is approached by a rough track through the jungle. The village itself is on the low bank which marks the beginning of the great Indian plain. Its fields are baked by the sun even in the winter.

The jungle ends abruptly where the fields begin. The jungle track becomes the village lane, with paths leading to huts, some in clusters and others standing alone - about 200

dwellings with a population of around 1,500. Each hut has its own field close by, usually less than an acre.

The sleepy appearance of the village is belied by the constant state of tension and conflict with the absentee landlord, who owns the neighbouring fields, with the authorities who, the villagers believe, are out to persecute and exploit them, and with the elements.

Life is a struggle, but the villagers smile far more often than people do in the streets of London, and sing and laugh - and cry.

The village took me for a spy and demanded that I leave, but several men wanted to hold me for a more thorough interrogation. I played into their hands. Their questions might reveal what dark secrets the village wanted to keep from outsiders.

"Who sent you?" they asked. A friend, I said. Why wouldn't I name him? What had he told me about the village? He had said, I answered, that I would find it difficult to win their trust, but well worth it in the end.

The most hostile questions came from a man wearing city clothes. Newspapers, he said, were government agents. Why would a newspaper want to write about their village when there were thousands of others in India? "We must beware of the enemy."

I had come here, I explained, after four years in Himalayan villages, to learn what happened to hillmen when they settled in the plains. I had seen how difficult life was in the mountains - the poor soil, the meagre harvests, the lack of medical and educational facilities.

The man in city clothes, whom they addressed as Ashok, changed his tactics. "And what," he asked, pointing at Veenu, "is a young Indian woman doing alone with a stranger?"

Veenu recoiled. To villagers, any association

between a woman and a man to whom she is not related is grossly improper. All eyes were on her. She flushed with embarrassment and anger, began saying something - and then stopped abruptly.

She struggled to control herself. In town, she answered evenly, women worked with men as equals. Ashok looked around triumphantly: "So you think you're as good as a man?"

Veenu came back quick as a flash. "If you were a man, I would be."

She turned to the villagers: "But he isn't, is he?" How, she asked, could they allow this outsider to besmirch the village's traditional reputation for hospitality?

Why, Ashok persisted, was she with me? Because, she explained, as a journalist herself she saw it as her duty to give some of her time to a foreign journalist who needed help.

"And he still doesn't know the language - after four years?" Ashok addressed the crowd.

Veenu turned each thrust against him. "He began learning," she explained, "but whenever he comes to a new village, he found a different language. It wasn't easy for a man of 60 to learn a new tongue. How can you affront this venerable visitor who comes to you with an open heart?"

Their mood was changing. She told them about the world outside the village: about the benefits which development and education were bringing to the countryside, about the green revolution. Finally she judged the time right for the knockout: "Would Ashok have spoken about his sister the way he spoke about me?"

The villagers, who hold a man's duty to protect the honour of his sister as sacred, gasped.

A woman at the edge of the crowd rushed forward, tears in her eyes, and embraced her. The tension snapped.

A village elder apologized awkwardly. Ashok, he explained, was here to help the village against enemies who were plotting its undoing. He was young and eager, and had gone too far.

It was time to start back - and I had had enough. If they didn't want me, I said, I wasn't going to force myself on them. They didn't respond. We took our leave.

An hour into the jungle a messenger caught up with us. "Come tomorrow morning," he said. "The village wants you to witness the secret event we've been preparing. What secret event? You will see. Who had sent him? Ashok," he said.

Was it a test - or a trap?

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THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Exhibitions

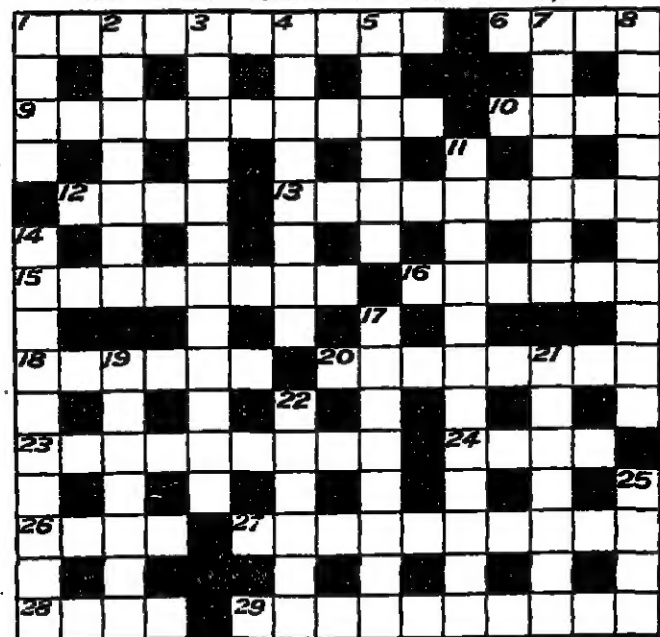
Reflective Images: By Helen Bennett. The Portico Library & Gallery, 57, Mosley Street, Manchester M2 3HY. Mon to Fri 9.30 to 4.30, (ends Feb 1).

Child Poverty Action Group Exhibition. Central Library, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh. Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5, (ends Jan 31).

The Ashman Bequest: Victorian Paintings. Municipal Museum and Art Gallery, Civic Centre, Mount Pleasant, Tunbridge Wells. Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 9.30 to 5, closed 24 to 26 Dec and Jan 1, (ends Jan 7).

Recent Paintings. By Nigel V Whitehouse. Shorham Library, St Mary's Road, Shorham, by Sea, West Sussex. Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5, Wed 9.30 to 1, Sat 9.30 to 5, (ends Jan 26).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,628



- ACROSS
- 1 Poison produces stench in railway disaster (10).
 - 2 Doctor in "King Lear" represented as climber and explorer (7).
 - 3 Talk of religious awakening involving rejected soldiers (12).
 - 4 Antonio worried about the start of Tubal's symbolism (8).
 - 5 Books of love letters between partners (6).
 - 6 Noisy disturbance in East is a regular thing (7).
 - 7 Son of Odm and Frige? Confound this nonsense! (10).
 - 8 Man to knock up man with evidence of debts (12).
 - 9 Stout woman with an estate in Germany, perhaps (10).
 - 10 Warning cry by archer to say what's coming (8).
 - 11 Can, and must, build a retreat (7).
 - 12 Hang back in the nude to bathe here (6).
 - 13 Noted for expressing praise? Not her, we hear (4).
- DOWN
- 1 Drop in the kitchen (4).

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 12

Nature notes

Frost and snow drive birds to new feeding grounds. More tawny owls have come into the towns; they hoot and call all night, as they search for sparrows roosting in the shrubbery. In this weather they can also be seen feeding by day. Short-eared owls move in from the east coast, and are found beating up and down the river valleys. Redwings and fieldfares also flock westward; the redwing's thin note, and the fieldfare's chuckling cry are heard in the tree tops in city parks. Blackbirds and song thrushes scuffle among the leaves under the hedges, where seeds and insects are still to be had. Unusual visitors come to well-stocked bird-tables: coal and marsh tits, redpolls, nuthatches and great spotted woodpeckers. Hunger, is stronger than fear in many species, and robins venture in through open kitchen doors.

Blow the brown keys off the ash-trees. But the first snowdrops are in flower, and the dark green leaves of lesser celandine are up. The small tortoiseshell butterflies that came out of hibernation in many places in the mild days of Christmas are now either dead, or sleeping again in dark corners of garden sheds.

DJN

Bond winners

Winning numbers in the weekly draw for Premium Bond prizes are: £100,000: 95L 287943 (winner lives overseas); £50,000: 8FT 647343 (Brighton); £25,000: TS 045137 (Newport, Gwent).

Music year

A national calendar of musical events will be organized throughout this year to commemorate the centenary of the birth of the composer, which is designed to be the biggest ever celebration of the musical heritage of Europe.

The pound

Bank of England: 1.46, 1.45, 1.44, 1.43, 1.42, 1.41, 1.40, 1.39, 1.38, 1.37, 1.36, 1.35, 1.34, 1.33, 1.32, 1.31, 1.30, 1.29, 1.28, 1.27, 1.26, 1.25, 1.24, 1.23, 1.22, 1.21, 1.20, 1.19, 1.18, 1.17, 1.16, 1.15, 1.14, 1.13, 1.12, 1.11, 1.10, 1.09, 1.08, 1.07, 1.06, 1.05, 1.04, 1.03, 1.02, 1.01, 1.00, 0.99, 0.98, 0.97, 0.96, 0.95, 0.94, 0.93, 0.92, 0.91, 0.90, 0.89, 0.88, 0.87, 0.86, 0.85, 0.84, 0.83, 0.82, 0.81, 0.80, 0.79, 0.78, 0.77, 0.76, 0.75, 0.74, 0.73, 0.72, 0.71, 0.70, 0.69, 0.68, 0.67, 0.66, 0.65, 0.64, 0.63, 0.62, 0.61, 0.60, 0.59, 0.58, 0.57, 0.56, 0.55, 0.54, 0.53, 0.52, 0.51, 0.50, 0.49, 0.48, 0.47, 0.46, 0.45, 0.44, 0.43, 0.42, 0.41, 0.40, 0.39, 0.38, 0.37, 0.36, 0.35, 0.34, 0.33, 0.32, 0.31, 0.30, 0.29, 0.28, 0.27, 0.26, 0.25, 0.24, 0.23, 0.22, 0.21, 0.20, 0.19, 0.18, 0.17, 0.16, 0.15, 0.14, 0.13, 0.12, 0.11, 0.10, 0.09, 0.08, 0.07, 0.06, 0.05, 0.04, 0.03, 0.02, 0.01, 0.00.

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as quoted by Barclays Bank International Ltd.

New York: The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed down 4.86 at 1,184.56.

London: The FT 100 index closed up 12.3 at 941.8.

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Roads

Wales and West: A419 (Wiltshire) at Swindon: carriageway closed. Contrailflow. Alternative routes signed. A470 (Mid-Glamorgan) Cardiff-Merthyr road at Abercynon, lane restrictions, and temporary lights. A48 at Merthyr Vale, temporary lights. A30 (Dorset) Sherbourne to Milborne at Osborne: Resurfacing: temporary traffic lights.

The North: A63 (Humbly Grove) at Swindon: carriageway closed. Contrailflow. Alternative routes signed. A470 (Mid-Glamorgan) Cardiff-Merthyr road at Abercynon, lane restrictions, and temporary lights. A48 at Merthyr Vale, temporary lights. A30 (Dorset) Sherbourne to Milborne at Osborne: Resurfacing: temporary traffic lights.

South: A9 (Sutherland) High St. Golspie: road reconstruction; single line traffic with 24-hour traffic signals. A761 (Renfrewshire) SE of Weir: Planning and resurfacing. Temporary surface, single line traffic with lights (9am-4pm). A78, A742 Renfrewshire at IBM, between Greenock and Inverkip. Roadworks: E carriageway closed. Two-way westbound.

Fares go up

Fares of British Rail, the London Underground and London buses rose yesterday by between 6 per cent and 9 per cent.

Under the changes, announced nearly two months ago, rail fares rose by up to 8.1 per cent. Some fares went up by 4.7 per cent, giving an average for British Rail of 6.5 per cent.

In London, bus and tube fares rose by an average of 9 per cent, in line with inflation since the last increase in May 1983, although that included wide variation, with many fares unchanged.

On London buses, "short-hop" fares rose from 20p to 25p; the two-zone fare rose from 50p to 55p; and the three zone fare (the maximum) from 70p to 80p.

Portfolio

Investment in the Times Portfolio list when we published the last edition of the list was £100,000. The list is published weekly, and the value of the portfolio is published each week.

After taking the price changes of your share shares for that day, add up all your shares and you will have your overall total plus or minus (+ or -).

Check your overall total against the Times Portfolio dividend published on the Stock Exchange Prices page.

9 per cent of the total value of your shares will be paid to you as a dividend. The Times Portfolio dividend will have been paid out for that day and your share price as indicated below.

Portfolio - how to play

Monday-Saturday record your daily Portfolio total.

At the end of the week, add up your weekly Portfolio totals to determine your weekly Portfolio total.

If your total matches the published weekly dividend figure you have won outright a share of the total prize money stated for that week, and must claim your prize as instructed below.

How to claim

Telephone The Times Portfolio List when we published the last edition of the list and 3.30 pm on the day your overall total matches the Times Portfolio dividend. The claim can be made by post or by telephone.

You must have your card with you when you telephone.

If you are unable to telephone anyone else can claim on your behalf but they must have your card and call The Times Portfolio List.

No responsibility can be accepted for failure to contact the claim office for any reason when the claim office is open.

The above instructions are applicable to both daily and weekly dividend claims.

Some Times Portfolio cards include minor mistakes in the instructions on the reverse side. These cards are not invalidated.

The winning of Rules 2 and 3 has been suspended from earlier versions for clarification purposes. The Game itself is not affected and will continue to be played in exactly the same way as before.

Now to play - Daily Dividend

On each day your unique set of eight numbers will represent commercial and industrial shares

Weather forecast

A cold N to NE airflow will cover the British Isles.

6 am to midnight

London, SE England, E Anglia, E Scotland, W Wales, W England, W Midlands, Channel Is, SW England, S Wales, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N England, SW Scotland, Glasgow: Sunny periods, scattered snow showers. Wind north-east light or moderate. Very cold, max temp 3C (37F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Bright or sunny intervals, scattered snow showers. Wind north-east light. Cold, max temp 2C (36F).

Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland, N Ireland: Rather cloudy, scattered wintry showers. Wind north light or moderate. Rather cold, max temp 2C (36F).

Outlook for Tuesday and Wednesday: Continuing cold or very cold with widespread frost and snow at times, more particularly in the east.

SEA PASSAGES North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind NE strong to gale decreasing to W. Snow showers: visibility moderate or good sea very rough becoming moderate.

SE of George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind moderate. Occasional snow showers: visibility moderate or good. Sea slight.

Sun rises: 8:05 am Sun sets: 4:09 pm Moon sets: 8:54 am Moon rises: 4:16 pm Full Moon: 2:15 am

Lighting-up time

London 4:28 pm to 7:24 am

Bristol 4:49 pm to 7:44 am

Edinburgh 4:28 pm to 7:10 am

Manchester 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Panorama 5:07 pm to 7:50 am

Portsmouth 5:07 pm to 7:50 am

Sheffield 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Southampton 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Swansea 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Torquay 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Wolverhampton 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Wrexham 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Yarmouth 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

York 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Cardiff 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Belfast 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Gloucester 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Leeds 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Liverpool 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Manchester 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Newcastle 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Nottingham 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Sheffield 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Southampton 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Swansea 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Torquay 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Wolverhampton 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Wrexham 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Yarmouth 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

York 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Cardiff 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Belfast 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Gloucester 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Leeds 4:38 pm to 7:51 am

Liverpool 4:38 pm to 7:51 am